FRIDAY
February 27, 2026

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
24 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

Vol. 57 • No. 49

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

To subscribe,
give a missed call at
9828331787
or scan QR code

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

SAMSUNG

Galaxy S26 Ultra

Galaxy AI

samsung.com

Pre-order now

Please dispose of e-waste and plastic waste responsibly. Customers can WhatsApp on 180057267864 for information on e-waste/plastic waste.
Image simulated. Samsung account login may be required for certain AI features. Actual UX/UI may differ. Samsung promotes responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) features.

Cheil-30375/26

J BG-BGE

FRIDAY
February 27, 2026

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
24 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

Vol. 57 • No. 49

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

To subscribe, give a missed call at 9828331787 or scan QR code

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

'HATE SPEECH'

Gauhati HC issues notice to Assam CM

NEWS » PAGE 14

MODI IN ISRAEL

Stability in West Asia key to India's security: PM

NEWS » PAGE 15

IRAN QUESTION

Trump's shifting goals amid rising tensions

WORLD » PAGE 18

PARLEY

The limits and scope of AI boom

Have LLMs started to disrupt the software services industry?

OPINION » PAGE 13

STAYING ALIVE

Men in Blue prove too good for Zimbabwe

SPORT » PAGE 19

NEARBY

Will not lobby for CM's post, says Parameshwara

BENGALURU
Distancing himself from slogans raised by his supporters projecting him as the "next Chief Minister", Home Minister G. Parameshwara clarified that he would not lobby for the post, as the decision rests with the high command. » PAGE 10

Report predicts water shortage in 65 wards

BENGALURU
An analysis by the IISc of the city's groundwater data has predicted water shortage in 65 wards, spread across the city.

» PAGE 3

METROPLUS » PAGE 9

SC bans Class 8 textbook, orders seizure of copies

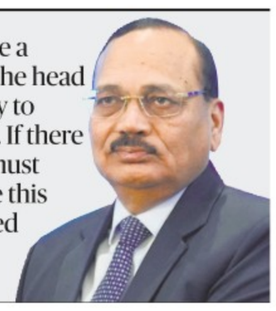
Top court initiates contempt action over a section on 'corruption' in judiciary in the NCERT textbook; remarks 'calculated move' to instil bias in children, 'heads must roll', says the Bench

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday said there was a "deep-rooted conspiracy" behind the "very, very calculated move" to portray the judiciary as a venal institution in a Class 8 social science textbook with "selective reference" about "corruption" in it. The top court ordered a "blanket and complete" ban on the book and the immediate seizure and sealing of each and every copy, both in digital and physical form.

The textbook was published by the National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Education, in February.

> I would like to have a deeper probe. As the head of the judiciary, it is my duty to find out who is responsible. If there are more than one, heads must roll... I am not going to close this proceedings till I am satisfied
>
> **SURYA KANT**
> Chief Justice of India



A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant, in a *suo motu* case hearing, said the "reckless, irresponsible, motivated, contemptuous conduct and manner" of the textual depiction was meant to instil a bias against the judiciary in the "impressionable minds" of young students, and through them, to society at large and even future generations.

The Bench said that "heads must roll" and initiated contempt action.

"All of us are holding our heads in shame," Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Centre, said and offered the court an unconditional and unqualified apology.

The court would not let the issue fade into oblivion after a word of apology from the government or the NCERT, Chief Justice Kant said.

"This is a well-orchestrated and planned move. I would like to have a deeper probe. As the head of the judiciary, it is my duty to find out who is responsible. If there are more than one, heads must roll. I am not going to close this proceeding till I am satisfied," the Chief Justice told the Union government.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14
'RSS-DRIVEN EXERCISE'
» PAGE 15

Modi calls for accountability

NEW DELHI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for fixing accountability over the chapter on "corruption" in judiciary in NCERT's textbook. » PAGE 15

DGCA revises norms for air tickets, extends cancellation window

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Thursday revised air ticket refund norms, extending the window for cancellation and modification of a booking for free from 24 hours to 48 hours.

Passengers can get full refund if they cancel travel plans due to their own or a co-traveller's medical emergency.

"The airline shall provide a look-in option for a period of 48 hours after booking tickets. During this period, passenger can cancel or amend the ticket without any additional charges," said the DGCA's revised rules.

However, any change in the airfare in the interim period will be applicable. The rules apply for tickets booked "directly through (the) airline website", only if the booking is made at least seven days before the departure for a domestic flight and 15 days for an international flight.

The regulator has also made airlines solely responsible for processing refunds, even when tickets are booked through travel agents or third-party booking portals.

Relaxed refunds

The new DGCA rules give airlines sole responsibility for refunds even for bookings made through an agent or a third-party booking portal

- Free cancellation and modification window extended from 24 hours to **48 hours**
- Full refund for cancellation due to **medical emergency**
- Free **name correction** within 24 hours

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

Govt. set to kick-start recruitment process

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The much-delayed recruitment process for government jobs is set to kick-start in Karnataka again, with the State Cabinet on Thursday deciding that the notication will be issued within the next 30 days to fill 56,432 posts across departments.

The notifications will come for 50% (32% for OBC, 15% for SCs and 3% for SCs) reservation matrix instead of 56% (32%, 17%, 7%) to avoid legal hurdles.

The protests by unemployed youth in Dharwad was over delayed recruitments, which had left the government embarrassed and given a handle to the Opposition to criticise the ruling Congress on not meeting an important electoral promise.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 11

MSD

~200 women lose their lives to cervical cancer in India every day.

Speak to your Gynaecologist, Pediatrician or Family Physician
about HPV-related cancer and disease prevention, including vaccination

Chat to know more

Issued in public interest for awareness only

For most people, HPV clears on its own, But for those who don't clear the virus, it can cause certain cancers and diseases
The American journal of tropical medicine and hygiene, tpmd250396. 11 Nov. 2025
National Cancer Registry Programme, India. JCO Global Oncology. 6. 1063-1075.
Copyright © 2025 Merck & Co. Inc. Rahway, NJ, USA and its affiliates. All rights reserved.
MSD Pharma, Wework Enam Sambhav, C-20, G Block BKC, Bandra East, Mumbai 400051.
www.msdindia.com

Image for representation purpose only

IN-GSL-01646
2/12/2026 - 2/9/2028

M BG-BGE

A champion is being built by the coaches and not born

The renowned coach from Malaysia wants to find a World No. 1 shuttler from India, having already trained elite stars in the sport; he feels the new 3x15 regulations is power oriented and is based on tactics

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

INTERVIEW

MISBUN SIDEK

K. Keerthivasan

At his peak, Misbun Sidek trained relentlessly, logging long hours on court and competing with fierce intensity, rising to a career-high ranking of World No.2 during badminton's highly competitive 1980s era that had legends such as Yang Yang (China), Morten Frost (Denmark) and Liem Swie King (Indonesia). Now at 65 years of age, the former All England Open finalist and a two-time World championships bronze medallist, is far from content to rest on past glory. Instead of easing into retirement in Malaysia, he continues to shape the next generation of shuttlers through hands-on coaching.

Recently, *The Hindu* met Misbun at the Hatsun Badminton Academy in Thiruthangal (near Sivakasi), where he has taken on the role of High Performance Coach. Under the arrangement, he will visit the academy three times a year to conduct intensive training programmes for both junior and senior players.

"His sessions are intense and he is a hard taskmaster. He insists on very high fitness standards for juniors and pushes them relentlessly. We are hopeful that his inputs will help our players raise their level to international standards," said B. Rajinikanth, head coach of the academy. Having already mentored three players – Lee Chong Wei, Roslin Hashim (2001) and Rashid Sidek (1997) who reached World No.1 in singles, Misbun's ambition remains undiminished–he wants to produce another World No.1. "I want to find another world number one," the Malaysian quipped.

Misbun's goal is to ensure his wards win more finals than they lose. "I ended my career as World No. 2. Then, I made up my mind that when I become a coach, my wards will not lose. That's why I train my players. When they go to the final, I make sure they win," he said. Excerpts:

All along, you have been coaching in Malaysia. Why the shift to another country?

Well, when I was being offered the job by Hatsun, I was, actually, reluctant because I've never went out [of Malaysia] before. But then the head coach Mr. Rajinikanth was really determined to have me here. Then, I told my younger brother Jalani Sidek, who is the president of our club (Nusa Mahsuri Club), why don't we give it a try' and that's how it started.

Is your objective short- or long-term?

I told them, 'if you want to have very good players, you must have a long-term project. You cannot have short term. In the short term, I can only do analysis and do a few other things. But if you want to have good players in the future, you must have a very good program so that the players will grow and improve from there. My idea is long-term and I told them that. Now I can see why I'm here. I can see very, very good players. Talent is all here.

How do you want to develop the players?

So, development of players is the most important thing. It is important to win the players' heart. You should know that a champion is being built by the coaches and not born. All players are skilled, but if you don't build them, the skill will remain skill. They need to work hard onsust their skills. Champions work on their skills by being disciplined and working on their technical and mental sides. My objective is that if I can work with the player and they understand my mind, then it's quite easy. Because training and tournament are two different things. In training, they are using my brain on my modules. In tournament, they have to implement it. That's the key.

How do you see Indian badminton at the International level?

They are already there at the top level. To me, they are still good. Only that they must put in a lot more effort into their training and into their programs so that they could sustain the intensity and remain world-beaters.

The Badminton World Federation (BWF) is planning to effect a lot of changes in the rules including the 3x15 system. What is your take?

Players will need time to adapt. The game has changed. In the previous system (21x3) we witnessed good rallies and good technical skills. But now the focus will be more on tactical fitness. As a coach, I will accept it. And I will incorporate it in my training modules and bring changes accordingly so that the players are more alert. For this kind of game, you need a lot of explosive power.

You have been a successful coach having produced quite a few World class players including three world No.1 players, Lee Chong Wei (2008), Rashid Sidek and Roslin Hashim. But now, Malaysia doesn't have any player in the top 20 in men's singles?

If you ask me, it's because of the programme and the system one plans and implements. If you build a player with a very good system, they can go far. But then I don't want to talk about Badminton Association of Malaysia (BAM), because they have a coach. They are quite sensitive. I know what is going wrong with the structure of BAM coaching system.

In March (3 to 8), we have the All England Open and in April (24 to May 3) in Horsens (Denmark), we have the Thomas Cup where Malaysia has been a champion five times (1949, 1952, 1955, 1967 & 1992). What are your expectations for Malaysia and India?

India and Malaysia, actually, are good contenders. Like India, Malaysia has quite a few good singles players and one or two doubles players. If they have the luck, they can perform well. Malaysia is struggling because we have not that many good singles players at the moment. Look at China, it has three good singles players and doubles players, too.

Lee Chong Wei was one of your famous trainees. Under your coaching, he became the All England champion four times and was an Olympic silver medallist. Tell us about your relationship with him.

Even now, I am in touch with him. He considers me as his father. And then anything, sometimes he will come to me to get some advice even after he was diagnosed with cancer. He's the kind of person who always worked hard during training, took heavy workloads. It was easy to handle him because he trusted me, and that was important. That's why he remained the longest-ever World No.1 it [a total of 348 weeks including consecutive streak of 199 weeks from 21 August 2008 to 14 June 2012].

You had four brothers, all played badminton at the highest level. The Sidek siblings dominated Malaysian badminton and held sway at the International level too.

That's because of my late father Haji Sidek. He was a badminton player at the district-level. But he had a vision for his sons. He realised that if his sons had to do well, they have to start early. Even when I was seven or eight years of age, my father always kept thinking of the All England Open and Thomas Cup. And it happened. We won the Thomas Cup [1992] (four of the Sidek brothers – Razif Sidek, Jalani Sidek, Rashid Sidek, Rahman Sidek – played in the event) while the men's doubles pair of Razif Sidek and Jalani Sidek became the first Olympic medallist (bronze) from Malaysia.

Rashid Sidek, at 22, became the All England champion in 1991. He went on to win many more Grand Prix titles. Of all my brothers, my favourite is Jalani because he always listens to me. I brought him here to Thiruthangal because he's a very good analyst.

At 65 years, what keeps you going. Your energy levels in training are being talked about here. And we hear you are known to be a very hard taskmaster?

I want to find another World No. 1. I have produced three World No.1s – my brother, Rashid Sidek, Roslin Hashim and Lee Chong Wei. Maybe I'll find the fourth one in India, maybe. I don't know. That's the reason for the fire burning inside me.

According to you, what remains your most memorable triumph?

It was the victory at the 1979 Australian Open when I clinched the doubles title with Jalani Sidek. It was my first major International title. Then, my major singles World Tour title came when I triumphed in the 1981 German Open, where I beat Syed Modi in the final. The next memorable one was when I reached the final of the 1982 World Cup, losing to Indonesia's Icuk Sugiarto.

You have played against a lot of Indian players, including Prakash Padukone and Syed Modi, among others...

Prakash is a skilled player. He doesn't smash and he does it when he gets a clear opportunity. He's more of a rally player. Syed Modi was a similar kind of player. During my time, Indian players didn't have effective smashes. Now, they have huge smashes. When I first played Prakash at home, he was the reigning All England champion. He came to Malaysia for a friendly match and that was the first time I beat him. In fact, we went to many Indian cities including Modinagar competing in the International Circuit.

SAMSUNG

Galaxy S26 Series

Galaxy AI

Pre-order now at ₹ 69999* (1 unit)

Retail price of Galaxy S26 Ultra (512GB)	₹ 159999#
Exchange value of old device	₹ 70000~
Memory upgrade benefit	₹ 20000~~
Effective price (1 unit)	**₹ 69999***

Free memory upgrade~~ 256GB to 512GB

Get up to ₹ 3500 off on Galaxy Buds4 Series with any model of Galaxy S26 Series.**

HDFC BANK | BAJAJ FINSERV | IDFC FIRST Bank | TVSCREDIT | Samsung Finance+™

Offer valid till Mar 10, 2026

samsung.com

Scan to know more

Please dispose of e-waste and plastic waste responsibly. Customers can WhatsApp on 180057267864 for information on e-waste/plastic waste.

Image simulated. Products sold separately. S Pen embedded only in Galaxy S26 Ultra. Samsung account login may be required for certain AI features. Actual UX/UI may differ. Samsung promotes responsible use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) features. *T&C apply. Offer price shown for 1 unit of Galaxy S26 Ultra 12GB | 512GB inclusive of exchange value of old device and memory upgrade benefit as detailed further below. Final pricing subject to dealer discretion. #Retail price of 1 unit of Galaxy S26 Ultra 12GB | 512GB. Price inclusive of taxes. ~Approximate value on exchange of 1 unit of Galaxy S24 Ultra 12GB | 512GB. Exchange value varies basis model & condition of old device. Exchange at the sole discretion of dealer. ~~Value of memory upgrade benefit from 256GB to 512GB. Pre-order customers of S26 Ultra 256GB are eligible for benefits of memory upgrade from 256GB to 512GB worth ₹ 20000. **Discount of up to ₹ 3500 is applicable on purchase of Galaxy Buds4 Series together with any model of Galaxy S26 Series. Aforesaid calculations are for illustrative purposes, final price at the sole discretion of retailer. Offer may be revised or withdrawn without any prior notice. All third party logos/brands are trademarks/registered trademarks of the respective brand/company.

Cheil-30375/26

J BG-BGE

उत्तराखण्ड शासन | देवभूमि रजत उत्सव | उत्तराखंड 25 रजत जयंती वर्ष
गौरव, विकास और संकल्प का पर्व

Viksit Bharat, Sashakt Uttarakhand

Vikas bhi Virasat bhi

Sankalp se Sikhar Tak

"There are two major pillars in the building of a Developed India (Viksit Bharat) in the 21st century. First, Pride in our Heritage, and second, Every possible effort for Development. Today, Uttarakhand is strengthening both of these pillars. This decade is the Decade of Uttarakhand."

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

"Under the visionary guidance of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Uttarakhand is emerging as a new model of comprehensive development. By focusing on local products, enhanced connectivity, industries, investment, and all-weather tourism, Devbhoomi is reaching new heights of progress while meticulously preserving its divine heritage."

Pushkar Singh Dhami
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

Infrastructure and Connectivity

- **Kedarnath-Hemkund Sahib Ropeway Projects:** Enhancing pilgrimage accessibility through world-class high-altitude ropeway systems.
- **Delhi-Dehradun Elevated Road:** Construction of the expressway is underway to reduce travel time between the national capital and Uttarakhand significantly.
- **Rishikesh-Karanprayag Rail Line:** Rapid progress on the ambitious Himalayan rail link to connect the hills with the national grid.
- **Tanakpur-Bageshwar Rail Survey:** Formal approval granted for the survey of this crucial railway line to boost Kumaon's connectivity.
- **Song and Jamrani Dam Projects:** Strategic water management and storage projects to ensure long-term water and energy security.
- **Heli-Service Expansion:** Expanding regional air connectivity to mountainous districts under the state's aviation policy.

Economy, Investment, and Industry

- **Investment Agreements:** Signed MoUs worth ₹3.56 Lakh Crore during the Global Investors Summit.
- **Investment Grounding:** Successfully implemented projects worth over ₹1 Lakh Crore on the ground.
- **Economic Surge:** Recorded a massive 26-fold growth in the state's economy over recent years.
- **Budgetary Strength:** The state's annual budget has crossed the historic ₹1 Lakh Crore mark.
- **Smart Industrial Infrastructure:** Development of a Smart Industrial Township at Khurpia (Udham Singh Nagar) approved by the Centre.
- **House of Himalayas:** Launched as a premium brand to take local Himalayan products to international markets.

Green Energy and Rural Development

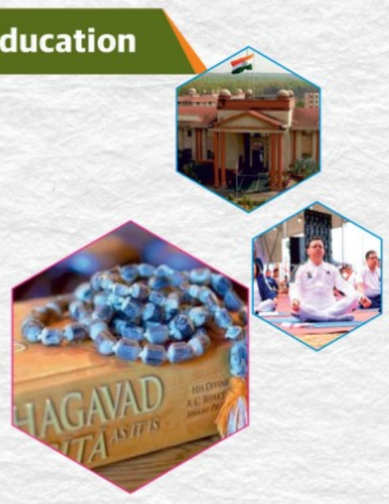
- **Solar Energy Milestone:** Surpassed 1 Gigawatt (1,000 MW) in solar power capacity, transitioning toward a green economy.
- **Solar Rooftop Adoption:** Installed over 42,000 solar rooftop units, promoting decentralized and clean energy.
- **Vibrant Village Program:** Focused development of border villages, improving infrastructure and livelihood to prevent migration from frontier areas.
- **Mahek Kranti & Millets Mission:** Promoting aromatic plants and traditional hardy grains (Millets) to double farmers' income and revive traditional agriculture

Religious and Cultural Heritage

- **Kedarnath-Badrinath Master Plan:** Large-scale redevelopment of the holy shrines to provide world-class amenities while preserving their sanctity.
- **Manaskhand Mandir Mala Mission:** A dedicated initiative to develop and promote the ancient temples of the Kumaon region.
- **Launch of Winter Yatra:** Promoting the "Winter Seats" of the deities to establish Uttarakhand as a year-round spiritual destination.
- **Mountaineering Access:** Opening 83 Himalayan peaks for mountaineering to boost high-altitude adventure tourism.
- **Sanskrit Gram Initiative:** Developing model villages to preserve and promote Sanskrit as a living heritage

Culture and Spiritual Education

- **Values-Based Education:** The study of the Bhagavad Gita has been integrated into the school curriculum.
- **Academic Excellence:** Established the Hindu Studies Centre at Doon University to promote research into ancient wisdom.
- **Spiritual Economic Zones:** Concept launched across Garhwal and Kumaon to link spiritual sites with local economic opportunities.



Major Legislative Decisions

- **Uniform Civil Code (UCC):** Implementation of a common legal framework for all citizens, ensuring social equality.
- **Empowered Land Laws:** Strengthened regulations to protect the state's demographic identity and agricultural land.
- **Strict Anti-Conversion Law:** Enacted to prevent forced religious conversions and maintain social harmony.
- **Anti-Cheating Law:** India's strictest law against recruitment fraud to ensure a fair future for students.
- **Reservation for Agniveers:** Approval of 10% horizontal reservation in state government services for Agniveers upon completion of their service.

Good Governance

- **Jan-Jan Ki Sarkar, Jan-Jan Ke Dwar":** A flagship campaign aimed at bringing government services directly to the citizens' doorsteps.
- **Employment for Youth:** Successfully provided government jobs to over 28,000 youth through transparent recruitment.
- **Digital Transformation:** Over 950 services made available online via the 'Apuni Sarkar' portal for a paperless and hassle-free experience.
- **Land Reclamation:** Effectively cleared 12,000 acres of government land from illegal encroachments.
- **Social Security:** Increased pension amounts across various schemes with a transition to timely monthly payments.

National Level Rankings & Incentives

- **Export Preparedness Index (EPI):** Ranked 1st among small states in the NITI Aayog Export Index.
- **SDG Index:** Secured the top position in the country for Sustainable Development Goals.
- **Start-up Ecosystem:** Recognized as a 'Leader' in the national start-up rankings.
- **Mining Reforms:** Ranked 2nd in India for implementing transparent and effective mining reforms.
- **Urban Reforms Incentive:** Received ₹264.5 Crore as a special incentive from the Centre for excellence in urban development reforms.

Policy Reforms & Special Incentives

- **New Film Policy:** Offering up to 50% subsidy to promote Uttarakhand as the world's premier film destination.
- **Millet Policy:** A dedicated ₹134 crore action plan to promote the production and marketing of local grains.
- **Kiwi & Dragon Fruit Missions:** Providing up to 70% subsidy for Kiwi cultivation and specialized incentives for Dragon Fruit to diversify high-value horticulture.
- **Mahek Kranti 2026-36:** A decade-long roadmap to make Uttarakhand a global leader in aromatic oils and perfumery.
- **Lakhpati Didi Scheme:** Targeted mission to make rural women self-reliant entrepreneurs, with a focus on sustainable livelihoods.

Prime Minister's Nine Appeals

To Local Residents: Preserve local dialects and languages, plant a tree in the name of your mother, ensure access to clean water. stay connected with your village roots, and improve/maintain traditional (Tibari-style) homes.

To Tourists: Avoid the use of plastic, Support and promote local products "Vocal for Local, Follow traffic rules and regulations, and respect the sanctity and traditions of pilgrimage sites

Issued in Public Interest by Department of Information and Public Relations, Uttarakhand.

www.uttarainformation.gov.in | DIPR_UK | UttarakhandDIPR | UttarakhandDIPR

ARFID: when picky eating is more than being fussy about food

Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder is a real health issue: it is not stubbornness, attention-seeking or a passing problem; with the right support, people with ARFID can make a successful recovery from the disorder lead a healthy confident life, and maintain a good relationship with food

Lakshmi Venkatraman

Thirteen-year-old Sandhya, (name changed) was a very quiet child who studied well in school. At the age of 10, Sandhya had experienced a fever and severe bouts of vomiting, and she had to be admitted to hospital and needed to be given drips, as she had become dehydrated. Following this experience, she was frightened of vomiting and started avoiding certain foods. Gradually, the list of food she avoided started growing: within a year, she was only eating biscuits and milk.

Mealtimes became difficult and she would become distressed, crying and would leave the table if she was forced to try new foods. Her parents started worrying. Relatives told them that parents have to be strict at mealtimes. Her parents felt guilty, believing they were doing something wrong. Sandhya started to lose weight, she was feeling tired and she could not focus in school. She made excuses to not attend birthday parties of her friends. Eventually, she was taken to see a doctor who recognised ARFID.

Dietary struggles: Psychological therapies, particularly cognitive behavioural approaches, help individuals slowly and safely try new foods, manage anxiety, and build positive eating experiences. GETTY IMAGES

What is ARFID?

Many Indian families have the experience of children being choosy with food. Parents try very hard to make the children eat, and often hear others reassure them that this is a 'passing phase' and that the child will 'grow out of it'. ARFID (Avoidant/Restrictive Food Intake Disorder), however, is a mental health disorder which may look similar to picky eating in the beginning, but it can become serious, if not treated, due to the consequences of restrictive eating. ARFID can affect both children and adults.

ARFID is a type of eating disorder that is being increasingly recognised in the global arena as a growing but treatable disorder. It is not the same as merely being picky about food: there is a significant weight reduction, leading to physical complications such as growth restrictions in children, and problems in functioning at school, work,etc. Mealtimes become difficult including at family functions, eating out and lunches in school. The restrictive eating is not part of religious fasting, food insecurity or underlying medical issues and it is not caused by body image issues or the fear of weight gain.

What causes ARFID?

While the exact cause of this disorder is unknown, research suggests it may be the result of an aversion to certain texture of foods, along with fear of a harmful effect of the food on the body, alongside genetic (family history of eating disorders), social, cultural and environmental influences or traumatic experiences such as food insecurity, choking, force feeding, etc. It is not caused by bad parenting.

As awareness about this disorder is gradually increasing in India, there are reports of many cases of ARFID. Young children and adolescents have been seen to restrict their eating for fear of choking, and others have an onset of ARFID following a viral illness with vomiting, with the fear of subsequent vomiting making them avoid certain foods including solids, leading to weight loss, complications and psychosocial functioning impairment.

How is it treated?

The good news is that ARFID is treatable with appropriate professional support. While it does take time, individuals can get better with a gradual expansion in the range of foods they eat, improving their nutrition. A team of mental health professionals, doctors and nutritionists/dietitians have to work together to help the individual become better and then sustain the improvement.

The restrictive eating is not part of religious fasting, food insecurity or underlying medical issues and it is not caused by body image issues or the fear of weight gain

Psychological therapies, particularly cognitive behavioural approaches, help individuals slowly and safely try new foods, manage anxiety, and build positive eating experiences. Families can play an important role in helping the individual with ARFID. The family should remain calm and supportive. It is important not to force the individual to eat or punish the person for not eating. New foods should be gradually introduced without pressure. Regular mealtime routines that are positive and low in stress can make a difference to the recovery. Families can help provide modelling around food for the affected individual as well.

In the case of Sandhya, the doctor educated the child and her parents and referred her to a psychiatrist. She was given a formal diagnosis, and a referral was made to a psychologist who worked with her to help her with her anxiety, including relaxation and breathing exercises. Her parents were trained to provide a supportive environment at mealtimes. They were trained to praise the effort Sandhya put in, rather than praising her only when she ate food.

Whilst the progress was slow, Sandhya slowly started to put on weight and started trying new food, and grew confident that she could eat without vomiting. She became more energetic and her performance at school also became better.

It is essential to remember that ARFID is a real health problem. It is not stubbornness, attention-seeking or a passing problem. With the right support, people with ARFID can make a successful recovery from the disorder and lead a healthy confident life, and maintain a good relationship with food.

(Dr. Lakshmi Venkatraman *is assistant director of psychosocial rehabilitation services at the Schizophrenia Research Foundation, Chennai. lakmesridhar@scarfindia.org)*

THE GIST

ARFID is a type of eating disorder. It is not the same as merely being picky about food: there is a significant weight reduction, leading to physical complications such as growth restrictions in children, and problems in functioning at school, work, etc.

It can affect both children and adults. Research suggests it may be the result of an aversion to certain texture of foods, along with fear of a harmful effect of the food on the body, genetic, social, cultural and environmental influences or traumatic experiences

A team of mental health professionals, doctors and nutritionists/dietitians have to work together to help the individual become better and then sustain the improvement

BIG SHOT

A member of the indigenous Tzotzil community receives a measles vaccine at a health centre in San Juan Chamula, Mexico. Measles is a highly contagious, airborne disease caused by a virus that can lead to severe complications. REUTERS

Understanding bone strength reduction and the increase in fragility fractures

Pavan Chebbi

The common causes of fractures include accidents, sports activities and falls, but fractures can also occur without any cause, or from just slight bone damage. The medical term for this condition, a fracture that occurs without any external cause, is a pathological fracture. Fractures that are caused due to bone fragility or due to low energy trauma – equivalent to a fall from standing height or less – are called fragility fractures.

The World Health Organization notes that owing to the global population growth and ageing, the annual incidence of total fractures worldwide is expected to continue to increase, driven by fragility fractures. This apart, people between the ages of 18 and 49 experience spontaneous bone fractures, which include spine and pelvis fractures that take place without major injuries. Why does this susceptibility develop in young and middle-aged adults, and what are the risk factors?

Bone strength reduction occurs in adults due to multiple biological factors. Bone exists as a living tissue that undergoes continuous cycles of its components breaking down and getting rebuilt. The body needs essential nutrients, a proper hormonal system, sunlight and physical activity to sustain its bone health. Additionally, the body needs to maintain its equilibrium because any disruption that leads to decreased bone density can raise the risk of fractures.

Bone strength reduction occurs in adults due to multiple biological factors. GETTY IMAGES

Osteoporosis is a metabolic disease that results in diminished bone mineral density and structural alterations of the bones. While this is generally a condition seen in older adults, idiopathic osteoporosis causes bone fragility in younger adults who lack any identifiable medical condition.

Apart from osteoporosis, high doses of corticosteroids and anti-seizure drugs may result in severe bone tissue loss when used for extended periods of time. Chronic conditions such as metabolic disorders, ongoing infections, and the cancer treatment processes may also lead to bone structure damage.

Common sites of fragility fractures include bones that bear weight or are necessary in routine everyday tasks, such as:

Spine and hip: Fractures at the spine and hip are regarded as critical injuries because they disrupt a person's ability to move and live independently.

Wrist and upper arm: These frequently break during minor stumbles or simple reaching movements.

Knee and foot fractures: Knee and foot fractures are common in individuals with weak muscles and in those who are overweight.

Modern risk factors

The strength of our bones is affected by different factors: both genetic and lifestyle. While factors that lead to changes in bone density include both natural ageing processes and hormonal shifts that occur because of menopause and genetic predisposition, the rate of bone loss can increase significantly due to lifestyle choices as well. Smoking, drinking in excess, and having an abnormally low body weight weakens the strength of the bones. Inadequate nutrition and lack of exercise further reduce bone strength because the body does not see the need for dense and strong bones due to limited activity.

The first step to safeguarding people who might suffer bone injuries is through early detection. The three-pillar approach to bone health requires people to: consume enough calcium to fulfill their dietary requirements; get adequate direct sunlight because this helps produce essential vitamin D and ensure strength training to compel bones to undergo thickening, as the body needs to bear physical weight.

(Dr. Pavan Chebbi is an orthopaedic and joint replacement surgeon at Apollo Spectra, Koramangala, Bengaluru. chebbipavan@gmail.com)

IISc report predicts water shortage in 65 wards across city this summer

Some of the wards that may face water shortage include Jakkur, Jalahalli, Hebbal, and K.R. Puram, among others

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An analysis by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) of the city's groundwater data has predicted water shortage in 65 wards, spread across the city and not just 110 villages, as was expected.

The team at IISc utilised Artificial Intelligence (AI) to analyse real-time data gathered through IoT (Internet of Things) technology. This advanced analysis pinpointed a potential water scarcity in 65 specific wards across Bengaluru, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) said. "This is the first time in the country that an AI-based technological framework has been formulated to effectively predict and manage potential water shortages," V. Ram Prasath Manohar, chairman, BWSSB, said.

Based on the report, BWSSB has reportedly formulated a plan to tackle the water shortage in these areas. K. MURALI KUMAR

Some of the wards that are predicted to face water shortage this summer include Jakkur, Jalahalli, Hebbal, Horamavu, Ramamurthy Nagar, K.R. Puram, Doddabidarakallu, Kadu Malleshwara, Mahalakshmipuram, Kengeri, Konankunte, Koramangala, Chamrajpet, Vijayanagar, Girinagar, B.T.M. Layout, Katriguppe, among others.

Based on this report, BWSSB has formulated a plan to tackle the water shortage in these areas.

"Properties in the 65 identified wards that currently lack a water supply will be identified and provided with immediate connections. Apartment complexes within these jurisdictions will receive fast-tracked water connections," Mr. Manohar said.

The Board will fill the lakes within these 65 wards using treated water to artificially recharge depleting groundwater levels. Mr. Manohar said that strict instructions have been issued to ensure that borewells and RO plants across these 65 wards operate seamlessly without any disruptions.

Apart from these 65 wards, slums and highly populated zones facing water stress have been identified, BWSSB said. Water tanks will be set up as temporary water distribution centers in these localities. Water tankers will also be deployed wherever strictly necessary.

Apart from these, aerators will be promoted to conserve water and using drinking water for non-essential purposes will be penalised.

Treated water has been made mandatory for all construction activities.

Multi-agency panel to draft fire safety plan for old 'pete' area

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) chief M. Maheshwar Rao on Thursday directed officials to form a committee to prepare a comprehensive report on preventing and controlling fire accidents in the commercial parts of the old 'pete' area. He made the announcement after visiting the commercial complex which was gutted on Wednesday in Kumbarpet.

Five persons, including four of a family, were killed in an accidental fire in Nagarathpet in August 2025. Mr. Rao recalled the incident on Thursday and said that in view of the recurrence of fire accidents in the area, a committee with representatives from GBA, Central City Corporation, Fire and Emergency Services, and the Energy Department will conduct a detailed inquiry into the causes of the accident and submit a comprehensive report on effective measures to prevent and control such incidents. Fire and Emergency Services that rushed to put out the fire at the three-storeyed Lakshmi Commercial Complex in Kumbarpet on Wednesday couldn't get direct access to the building due to narrow roads. They accessed the building by laying hose lines from a distance of around 300 m. To prevent such issues henceforth, he directed officials to install fire hydrant systems at key locations in the old 'pete' area.

He said that fire safety systems and fire extinguishers must be made mandatory in all commercial buildings in the old 'pete' area and to seal buildings that fail to install fire safety systems, without leniency. He directed officials to convene a meeting with trade associations to discuss necessary precautionary measures and to ensure their mandatory compliance. The commissioner spoke tough on illegal constructions in the area. He ordered immediate disconnection of electricity supply to unauthorised buildings and issuance of notices to halt construction activities. If portions constructed in violation of the sanctioned plan are not removed, criminal cases should be registered against the building owners, he said. Unsafe buildings must be inspected and immediate notices issued to undertake necessary safety measures, he ordered.

Woman found dead near Varthur; police suspect strangulation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 30-year-old woman was found dead under suspicious circumstances near a farm in Siddapura within the limits of Varthur Police Station on Wednesday morning. Police suspect that the victim was strangulated. The deceased has been identified as Sonali Khatun, 30, a native of Murshidabad, West Bengal. She was working as a housekeeping staff with a private company in Brookfield.

Her husband, Babu Shek, 33, is employed as a construction labourer in the city. The couple had migrated to Bengaluru about a year ago in search of employment opportunities. They were living with their son, 14, daughter, 8, and Sonali's mother, Sayra, 60.

According to the police, Sonali returned home from work around 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday. She told her husband that she forgot her mobile phone at her workplace and left to pick it up, taking her husband's mobile phone with her. However, she did not return home thereafter. When her family attempted to contact her, the mobile phone reportedly rang once before being switched off. Despite efforts to trace her overnight, there was no information about her whereabouts.

On Thursday, while police were making inquiries following inputs about a body found near a farm in Siddapura, the family identified the body as Sonali's. Based on preliminary observations, police suspect strangulation. A murder case has been registered.

AVAILABLE ONLY FOR
₹ 25* / 450 g
Amul CURD
Amul CURD
CREAMY AND TASTY
Also available in 900 g at ₹50*
For trade enquiry, contact: 7829962583, 9482990402

last 3 days
go swadeshi by gocoop
utsav
craft. culture. celebration.
120+ ARTISAN STALLS
craft exhibition | workshops
cultural performances | food court
25th February to 1st March 2026 | 11 AM - 8 PM
Jayamahal Palace Hotel, 1, Jayamahal Main Rd,
Near Cantonment Railway Station Road
www.GoSwadeshi.in
India's 1st National award winning online marketplace for weaves & crafts
Follow us on
Instagram @letsgocoop | Facebook/gocoop
artisan support partner
curation partner
cultural partner
pavilion partner
gocoop livelihoods foundation
the good loom by gocoop
Trikala
FLOURISH made from good

Debt-ridden farmer climbs 400 kV tower threatening to end life

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 45-year-old farmer climbed a 400 KV high-tension power transmission tower in B.K. Halli, in Nagalamadike hobli of Pavagada taluk in Tumakuru district in Karnataka, allegedly in an attempt to kill himself reportedly due to mounting debt.

The farmer, Gopalappa, is said to have been under severe financial stress. According to sources, he had borrowed around ₹6 lakh in 2025 to drill a borewell. Subsequently, he had taken more loans for his children's marriage.

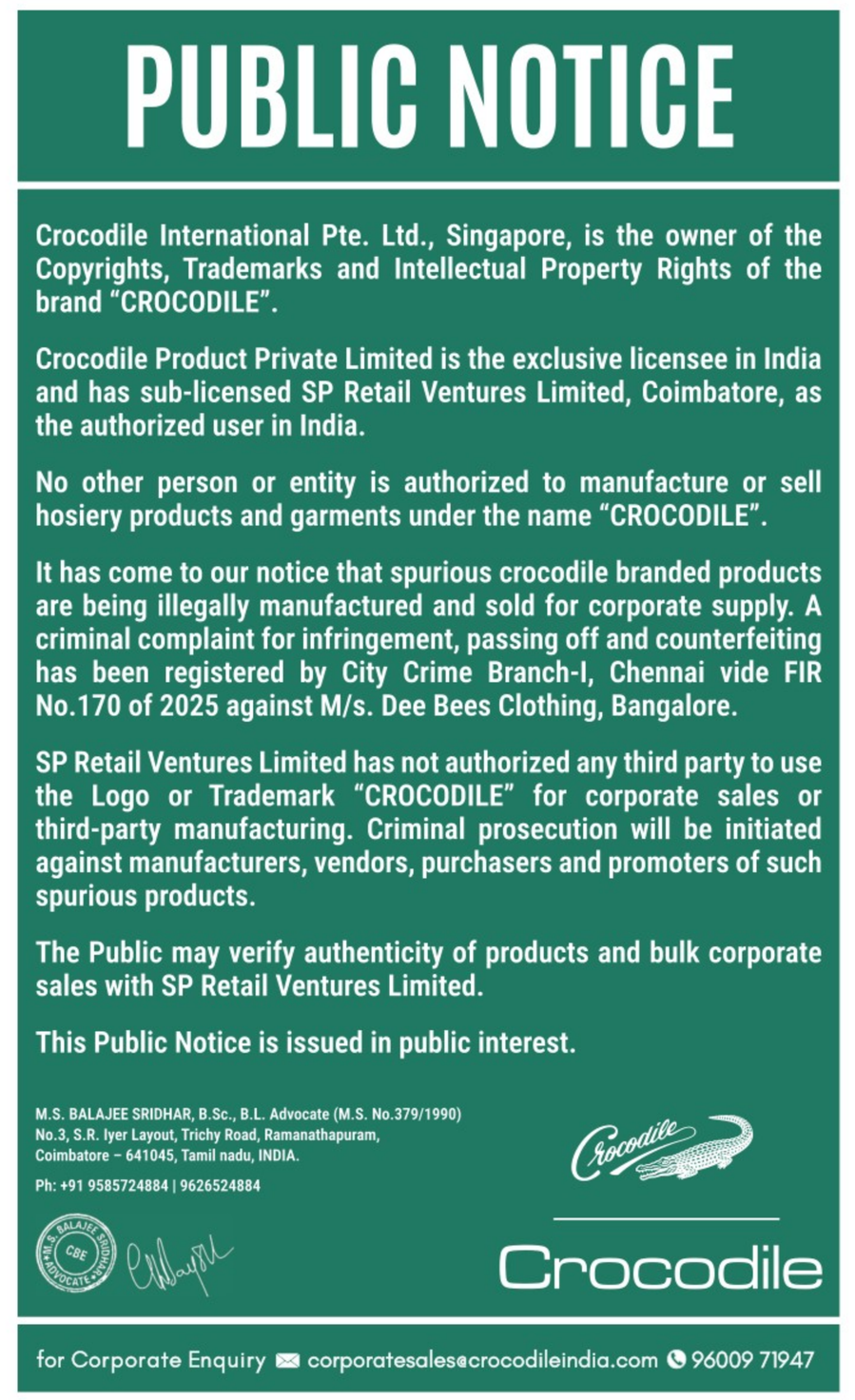
He was unable to repay the loans.

Unable to cope with alleged harassment by money-lenders, Gopalappa reportedly consumed alcohol and climbed a 400 KV solar power transmission tower, located on the outskirts of the village, and threatened to end his life. Local residents working in nearby fields noticed him atop the high-tension tower. They alerted the police and fire services.

Tirumani police and personnel from the Pavagada Fire and Emergency Services station rushed to the spot. After sustained counselling, officials brought him down safely from a height of nearly 120 feet using harness belts and ropes. Further inquiry is under way.

(If you are in distress or having suicidal tendencies, please reach out to these 24/7 helplines: KIRAN at 1800-599-0019 or Arogya Sahayavani at 104 for help.)

KIADB
Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
E-AUCTION NOTIFICATION
Residential Houses
Sl. No | House Details | No of Units | Plot size in mtr. | Plot Area in Sq.mtr
1 | LIG | 50 | 9.14 x 12.19 | 111.41
2 | MIG | 20 | 9.14 x 15.24 | 139.29
3 | HIG | 36 | 12.19 x 18.29 | 222.95
Total | | 106 | |
Residential Sites
Sl. No | Plots Details | No of Plots | Plot size in mtr.
1 | EWS | 07 | 6.10 x 9.14
2 | LIG | 64 | 9.14 x 12.19
3 | MIG | 21 | 9.14 x 15.24
4 | HIG | 02 | 12.19 x 18.29
Total | | 94 |
Residential Layout Area of Vasanthanarasapura Industrial Area, 3rd Phase, Tumakuru District
Ready to occupy Houses and Residential Sites in Government approved encumbrance free Land
Well developed Housing layout in proximity to the upcoming Tumakuru Industrial Township of Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor (CBIC) with all civic amenities.
Close to prestigious educational institutions with good connectivity and accessibility
Litigation free and clear title with Availability of 24/7 Electricity and Water.
Registration Starts from 04-03-2026 & Last Date for Registration is 18-03-2026
"participate"
e-procurement Portal: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
"LIVE" E-Auction is on 21st & 22nd March, 2026
For More Details, Contact: KIADB, Tumakuru Zonal Office, Maruthi Groups Building, 2nd Floor, Near SIT College, Main Gate, B.H. Road, Tumakuru - 572103.
Email : dotumakuru@kiadb.in
Website: www.kiadb.in
Contact Details: 8105575100/8105768553
For Registration and Bidding Please Visit e-procurement Portal:
https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Vasanthanarasapura
HIG
MIG
LIG


PUBLIC NOTICE
Crocodile International Pte. Ltd., Singapore, is the owner of the Copyrights, Trademarks and Intellectual Property Rights of the brand "CROCODILE".
Crocodile Product Private Limited is the exclusive licensee in India and has sub-licensed SP Retail Ventures Limited, Coimbatore, as the authorized user in India.
No other person or entity is authorized to manufacture or sell hosiery products and garments under the name "CROCODILE".
It has come to our notice that spurious crocodile branded products are being illegally manufactured and sold for corporate supply. A criminal complaint for infringement, passing off and counterfeiting has been registered by City Crime Branch-I, Chennai vide FIR No.170 of 2025 against M/s. Dee Bees Clothing, Bangalore.
SP Retail Ventures Limited has not authorized any third party to use the Logo or Trademark "CROCODILE" for corporate sales or third-party manufacturing. Criminal prosecution will be initiated against manufacturers, vendors, purchasers and promoters of such spurious products.
The Public may verify authenticity of products and bulk corporate sales with SP Retail Ventures Limited.
This Public Notice is issued in public interest.
M.S. BALAJEE SRIDHAR, B.Sc., B.L. Advocate (M.S. No.379/1990)
No.3, S.R. Iyer Layout, Trichy Road, Ramanathapuram,
Coimbatore – 641045, Tamil nadu, INDIA.
Ph: +91 9585724884 | 9626524884
Crocodile
for Corporate Enquiry corporatesales@crocodileindia.com 96009 71947

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Firearms recovered from Naxalites in Chhattisgarh in 6 years

989 AK-47, INAS, and SLR rifles were recovered in Chhattisgarh over the past six years following encounters with Naxalites and from surrendered or arrested ultras, Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma informed the State Assembly. PTI

Migrant deaths or missing cases recorded in 2025

7,667 At least 7,667 people died or went missing on migration routes worldwide in 2025, International Organization for Migration said. Sea routes such as the Mediterranean remain among the deadliest. REUTERS

Residential schools to get Innovation Labs in Karnataka

60 The Karnataka government will establish 'Innovation Labs' in over 60 residential schools across the State. ₹6 crore has been allocated under the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan/ Tribals Sub-Plan grants for the 2025-26 academic year. PTI

Number of animals killed in Ohio farm complex fire

6,000 A massive fire at an Ohio farm complex killed 6,000 animals. The blaze engulfed two of five large agricultural buildings. The State Fire Marshal's Office is investigating the cause of the fire. PTI

Bodies of Ukrainian soldiers handed over by Russia

1,000 Russia handed over the remains of 1,000 Ukrainian soldiers, while Ukraine returned the bodies of 35 Russian fighters, according to Moscow's top negotiator. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu X.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

Why bulldozers threaten due process

The Allahabad High Court examines whether demolitions carried out immediately after FIRs violate constitutional principles, stressing that punishment lies exclusively with the judiciary; it warns that such selective demolitions, carried out without notice or hearing, undermine due process, erode constitutional rights

LETTER & SPIRIT

G.S. Bajpai

With five-pointed questions recently, the Allahabad High Court has laid bare bulldozer justice. Punitive demolitions transform executive discretion into punishment without due process. In a constitutional democracy, coercive state power is expected to follow a predictable sequence: allegation, investigation, adjudication, and only thereafter sanction. Yet, in recent years, Uttar Pradesh has witnessed a troubling administrative trend popularly described as 'bulldozer justice', in which properties linked to persons accused of crimes are demolished shortly after incidents of alleged wrongdoing.

Courts have repeatedly been called upon to examine whether demolitions carried out immediately after the registration of criminal cases conform to constitutional principles. In 2024, the Supreme Court intervened to delineate the boundaries of lawful action, issuing explicit directions against punitive demolitions. However, the recurrence of such practices indicates that the tension between executive discretion and constitutional restraint remains unresolved.

Present episode

The latest instance reached the Allahabad High Court when a family from Hamirpur district sought protection against the threatened demolition of their residence and commercial premises following the registration of charges against a relative. The petitioners themselves were not implicated, yet municipal notices were issued and some properties were sealed soon after the FIR.

The Division Bench noted that such sequences were becoming increasingly routine. It reaffirmed the foundational principle that punishment lies exclusively within the domain of the judiciary and

A bulldozer being used in Prayagraj in June 2022 to demolish an 'illegally constructed' residence. PTI

cannot be assumed by administrative authorities. To examine the legality of the action, the court framed five substantive questions, including whether such demolitions violated Supreme Court directions and infringed the guarantees of equality and life under Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution.

A careful appreciation of the statutory framework is essential. Laws such as the Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation Act, 1959, and the Uttar Pradesh Urban Planning and Development Act, 1973, empower authorities to remove unauthorised constructions. These powers, however, are circumscribed. Demolition is permitted only through a structured process; authorities must first identify a violation, issue a written notice detailing the grounds, provide a reasonable opportunity to respond, consider objections, and then pass a reasoned order.

Most statutes also allow appeals and possibilities of regularisation, showing that demolition is intended as a regulatory measure of last resort rather than an instrument of instant action. Equally important is the limited purpose of these laws: municipal statutes regulate buildings and land use; they do not determine criminal culpability. The registration of an FIR neither renders a structure illegal nor justifies accelerated enforcement.

The court's guidance

The Supreme Court addressed this precise concern in the *Re: Directions in the Matter of Demolition of Structures* (2024 INSC 866) case and categorically held that property cannot be demolished merely because its owner is accused of an offence. The court reinforced that criminal guilt must be established through adjudication alone. Municipal powers cannot be transformed into parallel instruments of punishment; permitting such use would undermine both the presumption of innocence and the integrity of the justice system.

State authorities often contend that demolitions are independent exercises under municipal law. While the existence of such power is not in dispute, constitutional analysis looks beyond form to substance.

Notices issued immediately after FIRs, targeting only those connected to the accused and executed without delay, strongly suggest punitive intent.

Administrative law describes this as a colourable exercise of power – the use of a lawful instrument to achieve an impermissible objective. These practices erode the separation of powers by allowing the executive to impose consequences that only a court may authorise. The deprivation of a home or livelihood based on suspicion alone is incompatible with constitutional governance.

Larger implications

The Allahabad High Court's questions highlight enduring issues: Can the mere apprehension of demolition infringe fundamental rights? What standards should guide preventive judicial intervention? What mechanisms ensure accountability exists when municipal powers are misapplied?

These are not abstract concerns. Demolitions inflict immediate and often irreversible harm on families who may ultimately be found innocent. Beyond individual hardship, they corrode public confidence in impartial governance.

A necessary balance

No city can function without enforcing building regulations. Yet that authority must remain strictly within constitutional boundaries. Selective or exemplary demolitions convert regulatory power into punitive action and breach administrative neutrality.

The Constitution guarantees that no person shall be deprived of property except by procedure established by law, notice, hearing, reasoned decision, and judicial oversight. When demolition precedes adjudication, this sequence is inverted and due process defeated.

Bulldozers have a legitimate role in urban management, not in determining guilt. Punitive demolitions, however labelled, are legally unsustainable. Preserving this distinction is essential to upholding the rule of law.

G.S. Bajpai is the Vice Chancellor of National Law University. Contributions of Vibhuti Sharma, Academic Fellow, are acknowledged. Views are personal

THE GIST

- The Allahabad High Court examined whether municipal action taken in close proximity to criminal proceedings reflects a pattern of administrative overreach and a colourable exercise of power.
- Referring to safeguards under the Uttar Pradesh Municipal Corporation Act, 1959 and the Supreme Court ruling, the Bench underscored that demolition is a regulatory measure of last resort, not an instrument of exemplary action.

What changed in Hong Kong after National Security Law?

Is Hong Kong's distinct identity giving way to a party-approved Chinese identity?

Gunjan Singh

The story so far:

Hong Kong has undergone significant changes since Xi Jinping came to power in 2013. Under Mr. Xi, the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has increasingly focused on exerting its control over the city and integrating it more closely with mainland China. This process of assimilation has been systematic, raising questions about Beijing's commitment to the "one country, two systems" framework and Hong Kong's Basic Law. The most decisive shift came with the implementation of the Hong Kong National Security Law (NSL) in June 2020. The law has fundamentally altered Hong Kong's political, media, and judicial landscape.

When did the tussle between Hong Kong and Beijing intensify?

The major tussle between the CCP and Hong Kong began in 2014 when the city witnessed major protests known as the Umbrella Movement. They were triggered by Beijing's proposal that Hong Kong residents could vote for their Chief Executive only from a list of candidates vetted by the CCP, with elections planned for 2017. However, after 79 days of demonstrations across the city, the protests were cleared by police.

Hong Kong was again rocked by violent protests in 2019 against a proposed extradition Bill that would have allowed suspects to be sent to mainland China for trial. As per critics, "people would be subject to arbitrary detention, unfair trial, and torture under China's judicial system". Although the bill was eventually withdrawn, protests continued over demands for more democracy. In response to the protests, Beijing described the unrest as "terrorism" and asserted that "restoring order was Hong Kong's most urgent task." The demonstrations were ultimately suppressed by law enforcement.

The clampdown on both protests clearly eradicated the political space promised to Hong Kong under the 'one country, two systems' framework. In addition, the lockdowns imposed during the COVID-19 pandemic further helped the CCP to control any form of dissent.

What does the NSL entail?

The NSL, passed by China in June 2020, "criminalises anything considered as secession, which is breaking away from China; subversion, which is undermining the power or authority of the central government; terrorism, which is using violence or intimidation against people; and collusion with foreign or external forces". Data show that around 260 people have been arrested under the NSL, with 76 convicted.

How has media freedom been affected?

The kidnapping of five Hong Kong book sellers by Beijing in 2015 heavily impacted its media freedom. In 2015, Lui Bo, Cheung Jiping, Gui Minhai, Lam Wing-kee, and Lee Bo, associated with the publisher Mighty Current and its bookstore Causeway Bay Books, disappeared. Authorities cited the sale of banned books in mainland China as grounds for legal action. This incident showed the push for ending critical media space in Hong Kong.

Jimmy Lai, the founder of the newspaper *Apple Daily*, was prosecuted under the NSL in 2026. The clampdown on newspapers started immediately after the implementation of NSL, and Lai was found guilty of protesting in 2021, and his newspaper was shut down. Another newspaper, *Stand News*, was shut down in 2021, and its journalists were arrested on charges of "conspiracy to publish seditious materials".

What does this mean for Hong Kong's identity?

Hong Kong's identity has long been rooted in the 'one country, two systems' framework and the Basic Law, which promised to "preserve their unique political and economic systems". However, since Mr. Xi assumed power, there has been a consistent effort to dismantle this uniqueness and subsume it under China's identity. With no space left for critical voices with the implementation of the NSL, Mr. Xi has managed to completely subsume Hong Kong identity within the idea of Chinese identity, one approved by the party.

Gunjan Singh is Associate Professor at OP Jindal Global University

THE GIST

- Since Xi Jinping came to power, Beijing has systematically tightened control over Hong Kong, especially after the 2020 National Security Law, reshaping its political and media landscape.
- Protests in 2014 and 2019 were suppressed, media freedom curtailed, and the "one country, two systems" framework significantly eroded.

Feeding spots designated for community animals

Signboards indicating feeding spots have been installed at the designated locations. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The East City Corporation has allocated 150 spots, while the Central Corporation has designated 90 for feeding community animals. Signboards have been installed at each of these sites. The move comes close on the heels of North City Corporation also identifying 70 feeding spots for strays.

D.S. Ramesh, Commissioner, East Corporation, appealed to the public to feed stray dogs only at designated locations in a disciplined and systematic manner, while ensuring public safety. He said that these spots were identified in consultation with local feeders, animal lovers, veterinary officers and Animal Husbandry Department staff, in accordance with the recent guidelines issued by the Supreme Court. These locations are away from main roads, schools, colleges, hospitals, bus stands, metro stations and other crowded public places.

Mr. Ramesh stated that feeding community or stray dogs plays an important role in promoting peaceful coexistence between humans and animals and reducing conflicts. Providing food to street dogs in a systematic manner helps reduce aggression and biting tendencies by addressing hunger. It also facilitates sterilisation (Animal Birth Control) surgeries and mass vaccination programmes for street dogs.

All citizens are permitted to feed street dogs at designated locations, and preventing feeding at official spots is a punishable offence.

Food safety workshop

MYSURU: The BioNEST Incubation Centre at CSIR-CFTRI, in collaboration with the International Training Centre for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, is organising a certificate-oriented workshop on Food Safety and Export Regulations from March 23 to 27. For registration and inquiries, contact: 0821-2412608 / WhatsApp: +91-8217679624.

Bomb threat to school turns out to be a hoax

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The Mangaluru City police carried out a thorough search at the Lourdes Central School in Mangaluru following receipt of a mail threatening an explosion, on February 26 morning. The threat turned out to be a hoax.

According to police, the mail landed in the mail box of the principal around 4 a.m. School authorities informed the Mangaluru East police.

The bomb detection squad searched the entire premises. The search was called off around 1 p.m. after the police concluded that it was a hoax.

50 properties with tax arrears to be auctioned today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

South City Corporation has announced that a total of 50 properties that have defaulted on property tax will be auctioned off at the Bommanahalli Zonal office on Friday.

The corporation had put up 30 properties for auction on February 21, when 13 property owners paid the arrears on the spot avoiding an auction. The remaining 17 properties and 33 new properties, totalling 50 properties that have defaulted on property tax and failed to pay the same despite repeated notices and opportunities provided to them, will be put up for auction in a distress sale, the corporation said.

HIMACHAL PRADESH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(Government of Himachal Pradesh)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR TRANSACTION ADVISORY SERVICES FOR SELECTION OF OPERATOR FOR OPERATION, MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE OF FOOTBALL GROUND & CLUB HOUSE IN DHARAMSHALA

The Himachal Pradesh Infrastructure Development Board (HPIDB) on behalf of Dharamshala Smart City Limited invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for Transaction Advisory Services for selection of operator for Operation, Management & Maintenance of Football Ground & Club House in Dharamshala on PPP Mode.

The RFP Document shall be available from **25th-Feb-2026** at https://hptenders.gov.in Bidders are requested to submit their proposals online as per the prescribed formats on or before **24th-March-2026 by 5:00 PM.** A pre-bid meeting shall be organized for the same on **09th-March-2026** at **11:00 AM** through online and physical mode at the office of HPIDB, Shimla. Online link shall be provided on the e-procurement portal.

The last date for submission of proposal is 24.03.2026 Upto 5:00 PM

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Chief General Manager
Himachal Pradesh Infrastructure Development Board
New Himrus Building, Circular Road, Himland
Shimla-171001, Himachal Pradesh, India
Phone No.: +91 177-2626696, 2627312
Email: hpidb-hp@nic.in; website:https://hpidb.hp.gov.in/

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
NOTIFICATION
Bengaluru, 18th February 2026

S. O. 899(E) -- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 20A of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the lands, (the brief description of which has been specified in the Schedule annexed to this notification) is required for execution of the Special Railway Project namely, the Proposed Constuction of ROB in lieu of LC NO.34 at KM 67/600-700 in Adagal village, Badami Taluk Bagalkot District in the State of Karnataka, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land;

Any person interested in the said land may, within a period of thirty days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, raise objection, to the acquisition and use of such land for the aforesaid purpose, under sub-section (1) of section 20D of the said Act;

Every objection referred to in the preceding paragraph, shall be made to the competent authority namely, Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority, Special Railway Project and Assistant Commissioner, Bagalkote, Karnataka in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and such competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard either in person or by a legal practitioner and may after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the competent authority thinks necessary by order, either allow or disallow the objections;

Any order made by the competent authority under sub-section (2) of section 20D of the said Act, shall be final;

The land plans and other details of the land covered under this notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the competent authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired with or without structure for the Special Railway Project namely, the Proposed Constuction of ROB in lieu of LC No. 34 at KM 67/600-700 in Adagal village, Badami Taluk Bagalkot District In the State of Karnataka.

DISTRICT: BAGALKOTE

Serial Number	Taluk	Village	Survey Number	Area (in A-G-An)	Area (in Hectares)
1	Badami	Adagal	44	0-5-8	0.0556
2			45	0-9-8	0.0961
3			76	1-25-8	0.6627
			Total	**2-0-8**	**0.8144**

No. W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727

Sd/-
(Pardeep Puri)
Chief Engineer-III/Construction/
South Western Railway, Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/947/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
NOTIFICATION
Bengaluru, 18th February 2026

S. O. 900(E) -- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 20A of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the lands, (the brief description of which has been specified in the Schedule annexed to this notification) is required for execution of the Special Railway Project namely, the Proposed Constuction of ROB in lieu of LC N0.41 at KM 80/600-700 in Keludi village, Guledagudda Taluk, Bagalkote District in the State of Karnataka, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land;

Any person interested in the said land may, within a period of thirty days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, raise objection, to the acquisition and use of such land for the aforesaid purpose, under sub-section (1) of section 20D of the said Act;

Every objection referred to in the preceding paragraph, shall be made to the competent authority namely, Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority, Special Railway Project and Assistant Commissioner, Bagalkote, Karnataka in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and such competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard either in person or by a legal practitioner and may after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the competent authority thinks necessary by order, either allow or disallow the objections;

Any order made by the competent authority under sub-section (2) of section 20D of the said Act, shall be final;

The land plans and other details of the land covered under this notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the competent authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired with or without structure for the Special Railway Project namely, the Proposed Constuction of ROB in lieu of LC N0.41 at KM 80/600-700 in Keludi village, Guledagudda Taluk, Bagalkote District in the State of Karnataka.

DISTRICT: BAGALKOTE

Serial Number	Taluk	Village	Survey Number	Area (in A-G-An)	Area (in Hectares)
1	Guledagudda	Keludi	94	0-5-12	0.0582
2			84	0-1-1	0.0107
3			95	0-4-10	0.0468
4			96	0-12-6	0.1252
5			97	0-2-4	0.0228
6			86	0-2-0	0.0202
7			89	0-9-13	0.0993
			Total	**0-37-14**	**0.3832**

No. W.271/CN/BNC/2025-26/Land SRP/1727

Sd/-
(Pardeep Puri)
Chief Engineer-III/Construction/
South Western Railway, Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/948/AAF/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the schedule property from its owner, Kum. Aparna Prasad, Daughter of Smt. Rama Devi M.C. and Dr. T.K. Sathya Prasad, residing at No. 16/1 (Old No. 286/A), 1st Main Road, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560070.

Any person(s) having any claim, right, title, ownership, interest, lien, charge, demand, or any other interest of whatsoever nature in or upon the schedule property described hereunder shall notify the undersigned in writing, together with supporting documentary evidence, within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Failing such intimation within the stipulated period, my client shall presume that no such claims exist and shall proceed to complete the sale transaction in respect of the schedule property. Any claim or objection received after the expiry of the above period shall not be entertained and shall not be binding on my client.

This notice is issued for the information of the general public.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Old BDA Site No. 286/A and New BBMP Municipal No. 16/01, situated at 1st Main Road, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Bangalore, within the limits of BBMP Jayanagar Ward No. 58, bearing BBMP PID No. 58-100-16/01.

As per E-Khata records, the property bears PID No. 2193655684 and Property No. 286/A-16/1, presently falling within the limits of Shakambari Nagar Ward No. 179, with New EPID No. 2193655684.

Measurements : East to West: 100 feet North to South: 80 feet Total extent: 8000 square feet

Together with the residential building constructed thereon measuring approximately 23940 square feet.

Bounded on: East by: Property No. 287 West by: Road North by: Property No. 286 South by: Property No. 297/A Bangalore Date: 23.02.2026

B. S. RANGANATHA Advocate
No. 54/3, Sri Krishnarajendra Road
Basavanagudi, Bangalore - 560004.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Auction for leasing of Parcel Space, Parking & Advertising and Miscellaneous Contracts by Bengaluru Division

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites bidders for E-Auctions on the following Dates:

1. **Parking & Pay and Use:** 05.03.2026, 06.03.2026
2. **Parcel:** 04.03.2026, 06.03.2026, 09.03.2026
3. **Advertising, ATM & Misc:** 04.03.2026, 05.03.2026
4. **Multi Utility Hub at Whitefield:** 06.03.2026
5. **Storage Facility at Parcel Office:** 04.03.2026
6. **Parking with other permitted commercial Activities at KSR Bengaluru City Railway Station:** 05.03.2026.

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Keep visiting the website for any corrigendum till closing date

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager Bengaluru

PUB/923/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2024-25

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.

South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRRLY

Government Of India
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL BANGALORE (DRT 1)
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.

DRC NO:761/2019 FORM NO.14 [See Regulation 33(2)]

Union Bank Of India
(Erstwhile Corporation Bank)
Attibele Branch,Vishnu CompleX, Sarjapura Road, Attibele, Bengaluru - 562 107, Karnataka. ....Certificate Holder
Versus
Mr. D.Damodar Reddy & Others
- Certified Debtor(s)

DEMAND NOTICE

To

1. Mr. D.Damodar Reddy S/o. Mr. Sankar Reddy Res at: No.24, HZK Arcade, 20th Cross, 3rd Main, Sattar Layout, Laljinagar, Lakkasandra, Bengaluru 560 030.

2. Mr. T.Veera Mal Reddy S/o. Mr. Thugu Narayana Reddy, Res at: No.8543/3, 3rd Floor, 18th&19th Cross, 2nd Main. Lakkasandra, Bengaluru 560 030.

3. M/s. Prabhavathi Developers A registered partnership Firm Represented by its Managing Partners **1**.Sri. B.E.Praveen Kumar, **2**. Sri. Girish.H.N. Having office at No.80, 2nd Floor, 1st Cross, 2nd Main, Vysya Bank, Gruha Nirmana Sahakara Sanga Layout, Near Reliance Fresh, BTM 2nd Stage, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560 068.

4. M/s. Prabhavathi Promoters (Developer) A registered partnership Firm Represented by its Managing Partners **1.** Sri. B.E.Praveen Kumar **2.** Sri. Girish.H.N. Having office at No.768, 16th Main Road. Mico Layout, Opposite to Apollo Pharmacy, BTM Layout, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560 068.

5. Sri. B.E.Praveen Kumar S/o.Sri. Ekambaram, One of the Managing Partner M/s. Prabhavathi Promoters No. 105, 9th Main, S.R.Naidu Layout, Opp. to Golden Park Apartments, Hongasandra, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560 068.

6. Sri. Girish.H.N. S/o. Sri. H.C.Narayana Reddy, One of the Managing Partner M/s.Prabhavathi Promoters, No.122, Hongasandra, Begur Road, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560 068.

In View of the Recovery Certificate issued in **OA No.952/2018** passed by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer, DRT, Bangalore on **06.08.2019** an amount of **Rs. 30,40,295/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Forty Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Five Only)** is due against you along with interest and costs from date of filing of O.A. till realization

You are hereby called upon to deposit the above sum within 15 days of receipt of notice, falling which the recovery shall be made as per rules.

In addition to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay:

a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the execution proceedings.

b)All costs, charges and expenses Incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the amount due.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on 7th day of September 2019.

Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 of the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below:

Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.

2) Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment.

Recovery Officer-1
Debts Recovery Tribunal -1
Bangalore

PEGASUS ASSETS RECONSTRUCTION PRIVATE LIMITED
55-56, 5th Floor, Free Press House, Nariman Point
Mumbai - 400 021. Tel.: 022 61884700
E-Mail : sys@pegasus-arc.com, URL : pegasus-arc.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE BY E-AUCTION

Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rules 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the below mentioned Borrower(s), Co-Borrower(s), Guarantor(s) and Mortgagor(s) that the below described secured assets being immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor being, **M/s Pegasus Assets Reconstruction Private Limited** acting in its capacity as **Trustee of Pegasus Group 39 Trust 2 (Pegasus),** having been assigned the debts of the below mentioned Borrower along with underlying securities interest by **M/s. RBL Bank Ltd (RBL) vide Assignment Agreement dated 30.09.2021** under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002.

The **Physical Possession** of the below described immovable property is with Pegasus being the secured creditor and is being sold under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and Rules thereunder on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis. The details of Auction are as follows:

Name of the Borrower(s), Co-Borrower(s) and Mortgagors :	**M/s Nischal Granites and Minerals - Partnership Firm Mr. K P Nagesh (Mortgagor/ Partner) Mrs. Anusuya Devi (Mortgagor / Partner) Mr. Anand Kumar (Partner)**
Outstanding Dues for which the secured assets are being sold :	**Rs. 1,52,73,741.62 (Rupees One Crore Fifty-Two Lakhs Seventy-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-One and Paisa Sixty-Two Only) due as on 17.11.2025** along with further interest at contractual rate and cost, charges and expenses thereon till the date of payment and realization.
Details of Secured Asset being Immovable Property which is being sold	All that piece and parcel of Flat No. 203 on the Ground Floor (as per site in Second Floor), Measuring 1128.79 Sq. Ft. of Super Built Up Area with one car parking in ground floor in the building known as "ALPHA EMERALD" Situated at Kothanur Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District. **(Property belongs to Mr. K P Nagesh & Mrs. Anusuya Devi).**
CERSAI ID :	**Security Interest ID : 400015444172 Asset ID : 200015410624**
Reserve Price below which the Secured Asset will not be sold :	**Rs. 50,29,000/- (Rupees Fifty Lakhs Twenty-Nine Thousand Only).**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) :	**Rs. 5,02,900/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Two Thousand Nine Hundred Only)**
Claims, if any, which have been put forward against the property and any other dues known to Secured creditor and value.	**Not Known**
Inspection of Properties :	**06.03.2026**
Contact Person and Phone No. :	**Bhaskar Sarat Turaga, (M) : 9902045750**
Last date for submission of Bid :	**13.03.2026 till 4:00 PM**
Time and Venue of Bid Opening :	**E-Auction / Bidding through Website : (https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net) on 16.03.2026 from 10.00 AM to 11.00 AM.**

This publication is also a **Fifteen (15) Days'** notice to the aforementioned Borrowers / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagors under Rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. For the detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to Secured Creditor's **Website i.e. http://www.pegasus-arc.com/assets-to-auction.html or website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net or contact the aforesaid contact person/s. You can also contact service provider E Procurement Technologies Ltd. Auction Tiger Bidder Support Nos: 079-68136805 / 68136837 Mobile : +91 9265562821 & 9374519754, Email : vijay.shetty@auctiontiger.net, chintan.bhatt@auctiontiger.net, support@auctiontiger.net** for technical support before submitting any bid.

Authorised Officer
Date : 26-02-2026 **Pegasus Assets Reconstruction Pvt. Ltd.**
Place : Bangalore **(Acting in its capacity as Trustee of the Pegasus Group 39 Trust 2)**

PEGASUS ASSETS RECONSTRUCTION PRIVATE LIMITED
55-56, 5th Floor, Free Press House, Nariman Point
Mumbai - 400 021. Tel.: 022 61884700
E-Mail : sys@pegasus-arc.com, URL : pegasus-arc.com

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE BY E-AUCTION

Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rules 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the below mentioned Borrower(s), Co-Borrower(s), Guarantor(s) and Mortgagor(s) that the below described secured assets being immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor being, **M/s Pegasus Assets Reconstruction Private Limited** acting in its capacity as **Trustee of Pegasus Group Thirty-Nine Trust 2 (Pegasus),** having been assigned the debts of the below mentioned Borrower along with underlying securities interest by **M/s RBL Bank Ltd (RBL) vide Assignment Agreement dated 30.09.2021** under the provisions of the SARFAESI Act, 2002.

The **Physical Possession** of the below described immovable property is with Pegasus being the secured creditor and is being sold under the provisions of SARFAESI Act and Rules thereunder on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis. The details of Auction are as follows :

Name of the Borrower(s), Co-Borrower(s) and Mortgagors :	**M/s Nischal Granites and Minerals - Partnership Firm Mr. K P Nagesh (Mortgagor/ Partner) Mrs. Anusuya Devi (Mortgagor / Partner) Mr. Anand Kumar (Partner)**
Outstanding Dues for which the secured assets are being sold :	**Rs. 1,52,73,741.62 (Rupees One Crore Fifty-Two Lakhs Seventy-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-One and Paisa Sixty-Two Only) due as on 17.11.2025** along with further interest at contractual rate and cost, charges and expenses thereon till the date of payment and realization.
Details of Secured Asset being Immovable Property which is being sold	All that piece and parcel of Flat No. 114 on the Ground Floor (as per site in First / Mezzanine Floor), Measuring 1064.57 Sq. ft of Super Built Up Area with One Car Parking in Ground Floor in the building known as "ALPHA EMERALD", Situated at Kothanur Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District. **(Property belongs to Mr. K P Nagesh & Mrs. Anusuya Devi).**
CERSAI ID :	**Security Interest ID : 400015444430 Asset ID : 200015410882**
Reserve Price below which the Secured Asset will not be sold :	**Rs. 47,43,000/- (Rupees Forty-Seven Lakh Forty-Three Thousand Only).**
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) :	**Rs. 4,74,300/- (Rupees Four Lakh Seventy-Four Thousand Three Hundred Only)**
Claims, if any, which have been put forward against the property and any other dues known to Secured creditor and value.	**Not Known**
Inspection of Properties :	**06.03.2026**
Contact Person and Phone No. :	**Bhaskar Sarat Turaga, (M) : 9902045750**
Last date for submission of Bid :	**13.03.2026 till 4:00 PM**
Time and Venue of Bid Opening :	**E-Auction / Bidding through Website : (https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net) on 16.03.2026 from 10.00 AM to 11.00 AM.**

This publication is also a **Fifteen (15) Days'** notice to the aforementioned Borrowers / Co-Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagors under Rule 8 and 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. For the detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to Secured Creditor's **Website i.e. http://www.pegasus-arc.com/assets-to-auction.html or website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net or contact the aforesaid contact person/s. You can also contact service provider E Procurement Technologies Ltd. Auction Tiger Bidder Support Nos: 079-68136805 / 68136837 Mobile : +91 9265562821 & 9374519754, Email : vijay.shetty@auctiontiger.net, chintan.bhatt@auctiontiger.net, support@auctiontiger.net** for technical support before submitting any bid.

Authorised Officer
Date : 26-02-2026 **Pegasus Assets Reconstruction Pvt. Ltd.**
Place : Bangalore **(Acting in its capacity as Trustee of the Pegasus Group 39 Trust 2)**

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
CALL: Bengaluru: 98455 29981 • 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 • 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 • 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NAMAN KUMAR JHABAK S/o Shanti Lal Jhabak R/o Flat – B–317 3rd floor no – 28 Wilson vintage apartment 8th main Wilson Garden Bangalore–560030 have changed my name to NAMAN JHABAK.

I, Praviljith Pathra Valappil S/o Sudhakaran P N residing at S R Nilayam, Kovval, Cheruvathur, Kilayikode, Kasaragod, Kerala - 671313, have changed the name of my minor son Nivil P Nandita aged 10 Years, and he shall hereafter be known as NEEV NIVIL.

LEGAL NOTICE

In The Court Of The Special Sub Judge (MCOP),Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu
M.C.O.P.No.512/2021

Rajkumar
S/O Ramesh - Petitioner
-VS-
P.S.Sankar Travels,
Ground Floor, NO.37/333,
RV Road,Kalasipalayam,
Bangalore, Karnataka-560002.
-1st Respondent

Notice to 1st Respondent

WHEREAS the above named petitioner has filed above application for claiming compensation of Rs.10,00,000/- for the injuries sustained by him in a R.T.A. on 12.12.2020 caused by your Omni Bus bearing Regn.No.NL-01-B-1252, it stand posted to 16.03.2026 for your appearance. You are hereby required to appear in this court in person or by a pleader on that date at about 10 a.m. to file your objections any, else the matter will be decided exparte in your absence.

S.Brejesh, M.B.A.LL.B.
Advocate for petitioner, Cuddalore- Cell:9443119417

Before the Honourable Sub Court Koyilandy
OS. 4/26

Uma Devi - *Plaintiff*

1. **Divya**, 39 yrs. D/o.Sankaran Nair, Erath house, Poomadam parambil, Panthalayini amsom Desom, Koyilandy Taluk, Kozhikode District - 673 305
2. **Rohit. S**, 32 yrs, S/o. Sankaran Nair, Erath house, Poomadam parambil, Panthalayini Amsom Desom, Koyilandy Taluk, Kozhikode district - 673 305

- Defendants

Take notice that both of you are hereby required to appear in this court in person or through an advocate on 9/4/26 at 10:30 AM to answer the above case
Adv.Arun Kumar.K.P

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE LXII ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSION JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-63)
Original Suit No. 6673 of 2022
BETWEEN :
ICICI Bank Ltd.
A body corporate incorporated and registered under the Indian Companies Act, 1956 and licensed as a Bank under the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 having Registered Office at: "Landmark", Race Course Circle, Vadodara - 390007 And having its Regional office at ICICI Bank Ltd., 11th Floor, C-Wing, Mittal Tower, M.G. Road, Bengaluru- 560001. And represented by its POA Holder, Mr. M Rohit Ali S/o Ishrath Ali M, Aged about 25 years, ...Plaintiff
AND
Mr. Ganesh Prasad Parida S/o Shankarasana Parida Aged about 31 years, R/a No. 3622/2, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, Lakshmi Building, Kammanahalli Gottigere Post, Near Bus Stop, B.G. Road, B.G. Road, Bengaluru- 560083 ...Defendant

Summons/Notice through Paper Publication

Mr. Ganesh Prasad Parida S/o Shankarasana Parida, Aged about 31 years, R/a No. 3622/2, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, Lakshmi Building, Kammanahalli, Gottigere Post, Near Bus Stop, B.G. Road, B.G. Road, Bengaluru- 560083 ...Defendant

WHEREAS the above named Plaintiff has instituted case against you for recovery of loan amount Rs. 2,65,683/- together with interest at the rate 18% p.a. from date of due to till the date of realization.
You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble City Civil & Session Judge Court (CCH-63), At Bengaluru, in person or by a Advocate/ Pleader on 24/03/2026 at 11:00 A.M. to answer the questions of the same. Failing which the matter will be heard and determined as "EX-PARTE".
Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 23rd day of February, 2026.

By the order of the court
Senior Sheristedar
City Civil Court
Bangaluru

Advocates for Plaintiff
Mr. K.N. Arvinda Navada
Advocate No. 177/1 (88),
1st Floor Besides 12th Cross,
Cubbonpet Main Road,
Bengaluru- 560002.

M BG-BGE

CACHE

A machine has verified the maths that won a Fields Medal: why it matters

Mathematicians announced that a machine had verified Maryna Viazovska's solution to the eight-dimensional sphere-packing problem; the feat used Gauss, an AI tool, to spell out proof in the machine's language; the wider goal is to make mathematical correctness depend more on verifiable proofs

Vasudevan Mukunth

A group of mathematicians has announced a milestone in the effort to thoroughly verify the solution of the sphere-packing problem – for which the Ukrainian mathematician Maryna Viazovska won the Fields Medal in 2022 – using a machine.

This version of the problem asks what the best way is to pack a bunch of spheres in eight dimensions.

On February 23, the team that achieved this said it now has a proof that a machine has verified fully.

Viazovska's proof, like many other (human) proofs of difficult maths problems, was originally written for mathematicians to make sense of. This means her paper skips steps that are considered "obvious" or which follow from some theorem awareness of which mathematicians may take for granted.

On the other hand, the new achievement involved a machine checking both the evident and the 'hidden' steps.

Ukrainian mathematician Maryna Viazovska won the Fields Medal in 2022 for figuring out the best way to pack spheres in a volume in eight dimensions. REUTERS

Benefits of checking

Mathematicians are making this effort because sometimes a logical flaw or an unstated assumption can slip through unnoticed.

Once a proof has been checked in this way, other mathematicians can know which definitions the proof used at all points, which theorems the prover relied on, etc., making it easier for them to audit it themselves or reuse parts of it in their work. Other machines can also use it future when verifying more complicated proofs of other problems.

'Remarkable contribution'

The development is also notable for its use of an auto-formalisation agent called 'Gauss', developed by California-based company Math, Inc.

Formalisation here means translating a non-exhaustive human proof written in papers into the machine's language.

The language here was for a piece of software named Lean.

The Sphere Packing Lean project, an open-source effort to formalise Viazovska's proof, already had a large Lean codebase with many lemmas and definitions and a to-do list of the statements that still needed to be proved. 'Gauss', which is an AI tool, formalised the remaining statements for Lean to check.

"The project team is already in the process of reviewing and revising Gauss' code, thereby ensuring that it meets the editorial standards of the formalisation community. This process will ensure that the code is maintainable and reusable, and that it will support future formalisation work," Carnegie Mellon University PhD student Sidharth Hariharan wrote in a post on LinkedIn. "Gauss' remarkable contribution has saved the project months of effort, and Gauss will continue to play a role in the revisions."

Mr. Hariharan is also a maintainer of the Sphere Packing Lean project.

How Lean works

Lean is a programming language with a logical foundation. Mathematicians first translate definitions, theorems, and proofs as Lean code, then its kernel – which is the checker – verifies if they're correct.

The kernel checks proofs using Lean's built-in logical rules, while a separate library called mathlib supplies most of the standard definitions and theorems that mathematicians can reuse.

To use Lean, mathematicians start by encoding a problem as a Lean statement, including what the objects involved in the proof are and what exactly is being claimed. Then they incorporate the necessary mathematical 'parts' of the proof inside Lean, in this case, real and complex analysis, Fourier transforms, special functions, modular/Theta-functions, inequalities, measure theory, etc.

Every step that a human might skip in a paper needs to be expanded into a chain of lemmas that Lean can verify. Then finally the kernel gets to work.

At the Lean Together conference in January, Lean creator Leo de Moura said the priorities for this year include finalising the Lean 4 compiler and improving its performance to reduce compilation times and to handle the large scale of modern Lean libraries.

Challenge of formalisation

According to mathematicians, the ultimate purpose is to make mathematical correctness less dependent on trust and social processes and more on explicit and verifiable mathematics.

For instance, in 1879, the English mathematician Alfred Kempe published a proof of the four-colour theorem. If you draw a map on a flat sheet of paper, you can colour each region so that any two regions that share a border get different colours, using only four colours. And Kempe said he'd proved this.

Kempe's peers accepted his proof for about a decade because the proof looked reasonable and he was highly reputed. But in 1890, the mathematician Percy Heawood found a mistake that invalidated it. The theorem later turned out to be true but Kempe's proof was still wrong.

Mathematicians also found in the 20th century that a mathematical 'proof' is a formal object that can, in principle, be checked by a machine, and people wanted practical tools to do that.

Proofs in modern mathematics can also be extremely long and peer-reviewers may not always be up to the task of checking if they're correct from start to end. Proof assistants thus emerged as a way to raise, and meet, the bar for verification.

Helping with formalisation

The main barrier to getting a machine to thoroughly check a proof is to get it into the machine's language – i.e. formalisation.

Some major theorems that have been completely formalised include the four-colour theorem itself, in 2005; the prime number theorem also in 2005; the Feit-Thompson odd order in 2012; and the Kepler conjecture in 2014.

Automation has helped in this regard, although it's still not come to the point where a tool can take a 'human proof' and turn it into a complete formal proof in a reliable way.

In September 2025, a team led by Indian Institute of Science mathematics professor Siddhartha Gadgil won a grant from the AI For Math Fund for its work on 'LeanAide'.

"By creating an accessible, no-code AI+Lean environment, the project seeks to simplify the formalisation process for Lean users and empower mathematicians with new, innovative tools for research, including agentic solutions," the citation reads.

Some other tools like Gauss include Lean Copilot, an AI helper inside Lean that suggests what step to try next; Sledgehammer, a tool that tries to solve your current goal automatically by calling other programs; and Alpha Proof, an AI tool developed by DeepMind to produce proofs that a proof assistant like Lean can check.

AI in mathematics

AI has been reshaping mathematics even as it has continued to evolve away from just being a powerful calculator. Platforms like Photomath and specialised educational intelligence, or SEI, models today serve as on-demand tutors that offer step-by-step explanations in natural language and can adapt to individual students.

Large language models (LLMs) are being used to generate high-quality standardised tests as well as to take on challenges like the International Mathematical Olympiad. In 2025, reasoning models from OpenAI and Google DeepMind achieved scores worthy of gold medals.

AI models have also become a reasoning partner for seasoned mathematicians, helping to solve problems by detecting patterns in large datasets.

It has been used to generate novel conjectures in topology and geometry, often spotting connections across disparate fields that evaded experts.

On February 13, for instance, OpenAI announced that two models built by the company helped physicists make a new finding in particle physics, overturning a belief the community had held for many years.

"[xAI cofounder] Christian Szegedy has predicted that models will be mathematically 'superhuman in almost all respects' in six months to a year," University of Toronto assistant professor Daniel Litt wrote on his blog on February 21.

"I find that precise timeline hard to believe for most aspects of mathematical research, but I suspect that he won't be off by much when it comes to proving some class of involved statements that would previously have required an expert. This is a narrow conception of mathematics indeed, but it is true that producing such proofs is a large part of math research."

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

S. Upendran

"HI! I see that you have finally managed to get the speakers mounted on the wall."

"I did that yesterday. It was the devil of a job getting them to..."

"...devil of a job? What are you talking about?"

"When you say that something was the 'devil of a job', it means it was a very difficult task."

"I see. Is it an informal expression?"

"Yes, it is. For example, it was the devil of a job trying to find an auto in the pouring rain."

"It was the devil of a job scoring runs against the spinners."

"Last week I had the devil of a job trying to fix the scooter."

"What was wrong with it?"

"I'll tell you later. By the way, 'the devil's own job' means the same thing as 'the devil of a job'."

"So, is it O.K to say, it was the devil's own job trying to find an auto in the pouring rain?"

"It sounds good to me. It was the devil's own job fixing the car."

"Why didn't you take it to a mechanic?"

"The last time I took the car to a mechanic, he did a snow job on me."

"We don't get any snow here. How could he do a snow job on you?"

"When you do a snow job on someone, you deceive them or confuse them."

"That's what our politicians do all the time."

"Exactly! Here's an example. The students wanted to do a snow job on the teacher. Unfortunately, she knew all the tricks."

"I bet she did."

"The children wanted to do a snow job on their parents. But it backfired."

"That's happened to me several times."

"Neena seems to know when I am trying to do a snow job on her. Last week she..."

"... talking about Neena. How is she doing?"

"Not too good actually. She's pretty depressed. She fell down on the job. So they sacked her last week."

"Fell down on the job! Did she hurt herself?"

"Ha! Ha! When someone falls down on the job, it means he/she fails to do his/her job satisfactorily."

"I see. Many people in our school feel that our Physics teacher falls down on the job. Can I say that?"

"I guess you could."

"In the private sector, if you fall down on the job, you are likely to be fired."

"If you are part of the public sector, on the other hand, nobody really cares..."

"... really cares if you work or not. But tell me more about poor Neena. She's lost..."

"... oh, don't worry about her. She'll land a job soon."

"Another expression with the word 'job'. Tell me, does 'land' mean to find a job?"

"That's right. Once again, it's an informal expression. Mohan says, as soon as he lands a job, he is going to buy a CD player."

"My cousin hasn't managed to land a job as yet."

"I am sure..."

"... do you think Neena will land a job soon?"

"I am sure she will."

Published in The Hindu on September 28, 1999.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

American writer John Steinbeck was born on February 27, 1902. Here is a quiz on the author who has been called a giant of American letters

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1

An early Steinbeck novel, this book portrays a group of 'paisanos'— literally, countrymen — a small band of errant friends enjoying life, and wine, in the days after the end of World War I. Name the book.

QUESTION 2

Steinbeck himself considered this book his magnum opus. The novel brings to life the intricate details of two families, the Trasks and the Hamiltons, and their interwoven stories. Name the book.

QUESTION 3

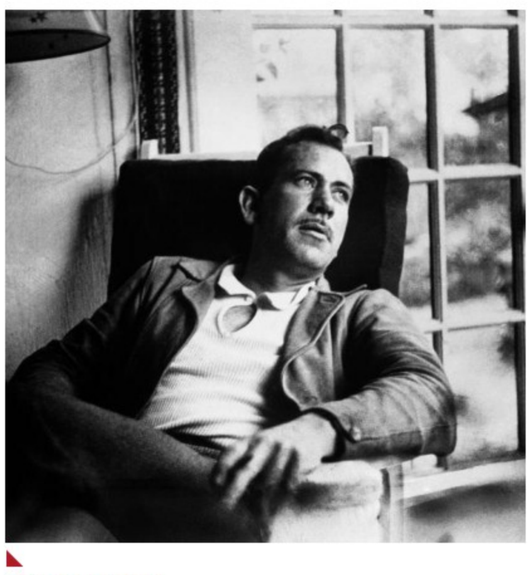
The Grapes of Wrath focuses on a poor family called the Joads. Which famous prize did this book win?

QUESTION 4

Which American philosopher influenced Steinbeck's writing, including the characters of Doc and Friend Ed?

QUESTION 5

In which year did Steinbeck win the Nobel Prize for literature?



Visual Question:
Identify the film that was adapted from a novel of the same name written by Steinbeck. AP

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. After living in poverty for a year, 20-year-old Hugo secured a pension of 1,000 francs for his book from this King. Identify the book and King. **Ans: *Odes et poésies diverses* and King Louis XVIII**

2. Hugo's first play, which was never performed in a theatre, came out in 1827. The preface to the text is widely considered the foundation stone of French Romanticism. **Ans: Cromwell**

3. Hugo's seminal text was translated into Malayalam as *Pavangal*. Name the translator. **Ans: Nalapat Narayana Menon**

4. The text related to the previous question has been adapted on screen several times. The 2012 film adaptation of the book won several accolades. Who directed the 2012 version and who played the character of Madame Thénardier in the movie? **Ans: Tom Hooper and Helena Bonham Carter**

5. This essay by Hugo is a work of literary criticism and examines the literary geniuses of history. Its title is also the name of a very popular English playwright. Identify the playwright. **Ans: William Shakespeare**

Visual: Archdeacon Frollo, Captain Phoebus, and Pierre Gringoire are characters in this Hugo novel, which also prominently features a cathedral. A fire broke out at the cathedral a few years ago, and it was subsequently restored. Identify the cathedral. When was the book published? **Ans: Notre-Dame de Paris and 1831**

Early Birds: Sukdev Shet | Mohan Lal Patel | Sadhan Panda | Haridas Pal | Piyali Tuli

Word of the day

Quip:
a witty saying

Synonyms: joke, sally

Usage: *She is known for her sharp quips and quick wit during interviews.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/quip

International Phonetic Alphabet: /kwɪp/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Students of APU raise concerns over plaint lodged by varsity

The complaint was against 'Spark Reading Circle, APU', a social media page, filed hours after ABVP activists protested against a discussion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Students of Azim Premji University (APU) have raised concerns over the complaint lodged by the varsity against 'Spark Reading Circle, APU', a social media page, hours after ABVP activists allegedly trespassed, assaulted guards, vandalised property and created a ruckus to protest against a discussion being held on the campus.

According to a complaint lodged on Tuesday, the chain of events began around 4.30 p.m. when certain members shared a post on the Spark Reading Circle, APU, referring to the alleged Kunan-Poshpora mass rape incident of 1991 in Kashmir, and inviting people to attend a discussion on 'violence by the Indian State in Kashmir' at 6 p.m. at a venue on the university campus.

Students affiliated to ABVP staging a protest alleging an anti-Army programme at Azim Premji University, on Tuesday. ANI

'No permission sought'

University authorities clarified that no permission had been sought or granted for any such event. As per university protocol, prior written approval is mandatory for organising programmes on campus. Around 6 p.m., nearly 20 members of an organisation allegedly gathered at the main gate of the university. They raised slogans and forcibly entered the campus. The complainant said the group assaulted security personnel and a student, damaged college boards, and shouted slogans against Spark Reading Circle and the student's organisation AISA.

The group reportedly proceeded nearly 400 m. inside the campus from the main gate and scribbled messages targeting the organisations before the police arrived and detained them.

A separate complaint has already been registered regarding the trespassing and vandalism.

University authorities further clarified that the social media page Spark Reading Circle, APU has no official connection with the institution.

They alleged that unknown individuals had created the account, and misused the university's name to circulate content that could incite enmity between groups.

The complaint stated that the social media handle had previously posted content allegedly defaming the university and harming its reputation.

The police have registered a case and initiated an investigation to identify the persons behind the account.

The Sarjapura police, based on the complaint, registered an FIR against the creator of the social media page. They have charged them under several sections of BNS, and the IT Act.

FIR condemned

The student council of the university expressed concern over the FIR by the university against members of the Spark Reading Circle, stating that the matter should have been addressed through internal disciplinary mechanisms rather than criminal proceedings.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the council acknowledged that organising an event on the campus without prior administrative approval may amount to a violation of protocol.

The council flagged what it described as an 'asymmetry in outcomes'. According to the statement, individuals who allegedly entered the campus without permission, caused physical harm to members of the university community, and damaged property were granted bail and are facing bailable charges, but students who organised what the council termed a 'peaceful gathering' are facing a non-bailable offence under Section 299.

Soon after, the general student body of the university released a statement

condemning the action by the university authorities "to singularly target and strong-arm Spark Reading Circle, a student-run body", the statment said the "series of unexpected and unacceptable reactions from the university administration has fostered a sense of mistrust and fear among the students".

Over 2,000 immigrants verified in special drive against illegal stay

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru police on Wednesday launched a special drive to identify foreign nationals allegedly residing illegally within the city limits. The verification exercise is being carried out under the directions of Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh. Police teams from various divisions have been deployed across different parts of the city to verify visa status, Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) registration and other relevant documents of foreign nationals.

According to police sources, more than 2,000 foreign nationals were examined on Wednesday alone.

Officials said information had been received about some migrants from Nigeria and Bangladesh allegedly residing in the city without proper authorisation. Legal action is being initiated against those found violating immigration norms, they said.

The drive is aimed at ensuring law and order and maintaining proper documentation of foreign residents in the city. Police indicated that assistance from central agencies would be sought if required.

Meanwhile, a 31-year-old migrant labourer from Nadia district in West Bengal was detained by Tilak Nagar police after being suspected of being a Bangladeshi national. Police picked up Mohammed Sheikh and questioned him for nearly 10 hours before confirming that he is an Indian citizen. He was released after his identity was verified, reportedly following communication from the West Bengal Chief Minister's Office.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Sheikh said he has been living in Bengaluru since 2009 with his wife and three children and works in the construction sector. "Police came on Wednesday and took me away, accusing me of being a Bangladeshi national. I tried to explain that I am from West Bengal and that I have been helping police and NGOs identify illegal Bangladeshi immigrants staying in the city, but they did not listen," he said.

Kerala police conduct major drug bust in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a major crackdown on interstate narcotics trafficking, the Kerala Anti-Narcotic Special Action Force arrested a notorious drug peddler in Bengaluru and seized MDMA worth ₹1 crore.

The accused, Dhiresh Kutum, 27, a native of Assam, was nabbed allegedly red-handed during a raid near Mylasandra, close to Electronic City.

The drugs were seized from a house in Ramesh Reddy Layout.

Investigators said the accused supplied MDMA disguised as food parcels and cereal packs, posing as delivery personnel from food aggregators.

The arrest follows a recent operation by the Kerala Police in Malappuram district, where eight persons were arrested a week ago with 1 kg of MDMA.

The police said Dhiresh's brother-in-law is a Nigerian national who allegedly facilitated the procurement and movement of MDMA to Assam. From there, the drugs were routed through Dhiresh's sister and distributed to Kerala and Karnataka.

APPOINTMENTS

Mahatma Gandhi University
P.D. Hills, Athirampuzha, Kottayam - 686560. Ph: 0481 - 2731007
8991/AD A2-1/2025/AD A 2 — 14.01.2026
NOTIFICATION — FACULTY RECRUITMENT
Lady Assistant Director of Physical Education and Sports
Online applications are invited from qualified candidates for appointment as Lady Assistant Director of Physical Education and Sports in the Directorate of Physical Education , Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala.
Qualifications: As per UGC Regulations 2018
Last date for the submission of online application: March 7, 2026
PRO/1/Advt/29/2025-26 — Sd/- Registrar
For more details: www.facultyrecruitment.mgu.ac.in

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION
(No: KPL/HR/RECRUIT/2025, dt 13.02.2026)
National Productivity Council (NPC) on behalf of Kamarajar Port Limited invites applications for filling up the following vacancies through direct recruitment:

Grade	Name of the Post	Payscale	No of Posts*	Reservation allocation			
				UR	OBC	EWS	SC
S 3	Junior Assistant	Rs. 25,250/- – 50,500/-	11#	6	2	2	1
S 3	Junior Accountant	Rs. 25,250/- – 50,500/-	3	2	1	–	–

In the above-mentioned Junior Assistant, 1 Post is reserved for PwD category
*The Management reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of posts advertised
For detailed eligibility, syllabus and to apply, please visit career section in:
https://kamarajarport.in
Date of Online registration commencement : 27.02.2026
Last date of final submission of online application :28.03.2026

Advertisement No. 31/2026
Government of India
Public Enterprises Selection Board
invites applications for the post of
Director (Personnel)
In
Central Coalfields Limited
Last date of submission of application by the applicant is by 15:00 hours on
18/03/2026
Last date of forwarding of applications by the Nodal officers to PESB is by 17:00 hours on
27/03/2026
For details login to website
https://www.pesb.gov.in

VIT CHENNAI
VITSOL VIT School Of Law — Justitia non est neganda, non differenda
THE HINDU GROUP
presents
JUSTICE UNPLUGGED 2026
Shaping the Future of Law
in association with THE HINDU

Raising the Bar in Legal Discourse
An impactful discussion forum featuring India's finest legal minds

Special Guest

Abhishek Manu Singhvi
Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, MP, Rajya Sabha

Presided by

G Viswanathan
Founder & Chancellor, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)

Programme Schedule

11:00 AM Onwards
INAUGURATION

11:45 AM – 11:50 AM
Welcome Address by **Suresh Nambath,** Editor, The Hindu

11:50 AM – 12:15 PM
Presiding Address by **G Viswanathan,** Founder & Chancellor, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)

12:20 PM – 12:45 PM
Special Address by **Abhishek Manu Singhvi,** Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, MP, Rajya Sabha

12:50 PM – 1:15 PM
Legal Education in India
G V Selvam, Vice-President, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) in conversation with **L V Navaneeth,** CEO, The Hindu Group

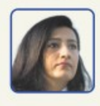
1:15 PM – 2:00 PM
LUNCH

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM
Gen AI–Induced Technological Transformation: Professional Competence in Legal Practice
Neha Rathi, Advocate-on-Record, Supreme Court of India
Jishnu J R, Head of the Department, B.B.A. LL.B (Hons), VITSOL, VIT Chennai
Sandeep Phukan, Associate Editor, The Hindu (Moderator)

2:50 PM – 3:35 PM
Fundamental Rights in the Digital Age: The Constitution's Response to Emerging Trends
Shadan Farasat, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
Gopal Sankaranarayanan, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
M S Sharmila, Head of the Department, Centre for Post Graduate Legal Studies (LL.M Programme), VITSOL, VIT Chennai
Aaratrika Bhaumik, Senior Sub Editor, Digital, The Hindu (Moderator)

3:40 PM – 4:10 PM
The Art of Constitutional Thinking: How Great Lawyers Are Made
S Muralidhar, Senior Advocate and Former Chief Justice, High Court of Orissa in conversation with **Krishnadas Rajagopal,** Legal Correspondent, The Hindu

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM
BREAK



4:35 PM – 5:20 PM
Improving Legal Access: Making Justice Accessible to All
Shreya Arora Mehta, District & Additional Sessions Judge, Delhi
Sanchita Ain, Advocate-on-Record, Supreme Court of India
Karuna Nundy, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
Tania Sebastian, Head of the Department, B.A. LL.B (Hons), VITSOL, VIT Chennai
Kunal Shankar, Deputy Business Editor, The Hindu (Moderator)

5:25 PM – 6:00 PM
Constitutional Morality and the Supreme Court of India: Has the Court Moved from Constitutionalism to Pragmatism?
Kapil Sibal, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, MP, Rajya Sabha
in conversation with **N Ram,** Director, The Hindu Group

6:05 PM – 6:10 PM
Vote of Thanks
Rabbiraj C, Professor of Law, Dean, VITSOL, VIT Chennai

Date: February 28, 2026
Entry: 10:30 AM
Location: New Delhi

For Registrations
Scan the QR code or visit
newsth.live/THVITJU

*Schedule subject to changes

GBA chief's public meeting draws huge crowd

Residents raise issues such as illegal waste dumping, building violations, haphazard parking and footpath encroachments

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Greta D'Mello, a senior citizen suffering from pneumonia, has repeatedly complained to civic body officials about the pigeon menace caused by constant feeding near Johnson Market.

At least ten residents in her apartment complex are senior citizens with health issues.

However, central corporation officials had turned a deaf ear to her neighbourhood's concerns.

Ms. D'Mello was among over 50 citizens who attended the public meeting held at the Bengaluru City Central Corporation head office on Thursday.

20% of the complaints can be resolved immediately, while a few can be addressed next week
M. MAHESHWAR RAO,
Chief Commissioner,
Greater Bengaluru Authority

"At least now, with the Chief Commissioner hearing our issues, some change may come with the initiation of action," she told *The Hindu*.

Concerns raised

Like her, several others raised concerns over issues including fallen leaves on pedestrian pathways, illegal dumping of waste, building violations, haphazard parking, and footpath encroachments.

'First-of-its-kind meet'

In what officials described as a first-of-its-kind meeting, participation exceeded the corporation's expectations.

The entire 10th floor of the Utility Building was occupied by citizens waiting for their turn to meet the commissioner.

Vidya Ramachandran, a member of the RWA Social Amenities Association in east Bengaluru, said that while many street vendors occupy space, which is acceptable, the real problem lies with those who encroach upon substantial portions of footpaths, especially those who set up mini nurseries on walkways.

She said corporation officials are well aware of such micro-level issues but fail to act on them. "We don't get solutions to issues like this at the junior officers' level, so it is good to hold public meetings with top officials who can direct their officers to take action," she said.

"We should see if there will be any outcome; otherwise, all this will go in vain," she added.

Resolution

M. Maheshwar Rao, Chief Commissioner, Greater Bengaluru Authority, said they plan to hold public meetings frequently to oversee the completion of works.

"We are taking complaints in writing so there is a record, and we can follow up on them," he said. The meeting was attended by all corporation officials so that complaints could be registered in their presence.

The initiative is aimed at bringing accountability to the corporations.

"In the next meeting, we will follow up on the complaints and ask officials to explain if any issue remains unresolved," he said.

The public meeting was welcomed by citizens, who particularly appreciated the one-on-one format, which gave them ample time to explain their problems and their severity.

Mr. Rao said 20% of the complaints could be resolved immediately, and a few could be addressed next week.

However, there are multiple complaints about building violations, which will be acted upon eventually, he added.

Varsity invites applications for PhD programmes for 2026

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Dr. Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University is accepting applications for admission to its PhD degree programmes for the academic year 2026.

The deadline to apply without a late fee is March 18. The deadline for submitting applications, along with a fine of ₹200, is March 25.

Details about eligibility criteria, entrance tests, exemptions from the entrance test, prescribed fees, payment methods, subject-wise vacancy positions, research centres and more can be found on the university website.

Feasibility study for multi-level car park

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) chief M. Maheshwar Rao, who inspected Dasappa Hospital on Thursday, directed officials to conduct a feasibility study for building a multi-level car park (MLCP) and a green building on the hospital campus. An MLCP at the hospital off S.J.P. Road will ease the parking crisis in the nearby electronics market hub. He directed that a leaf composting unit be established within the hospital premises to convert fallen leaves into compost on site.

He inspected the public toilet located near the mosque at K.R. Market and directed officials to maintain cleanliness in and around the facility. He instructed officials to ensure that public toilets within the Central City Corporation limits are maintained with 100% cleanliness.

MANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
O&M Circle, Shakthi Soudha, Bondel, Mangalore-575 015
Tel: 0824-2443549/2444915, CIN: U40109 KA 2002 SGC 030425

NO: SEE/MNG/EE(O)/AEE(C)/JE(C)/2025-26/14303-306 DATE: 24.02.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

MESCOM Invites Civil Engineering Capital Work of Mangalore Circle in Mangalore Division through e-procurement portal from registered PWD contractors having EPF, ESI, GST and Labour department registration. For details NIT and to participate in the Tenders through KPPP directly you can access the tendering website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from Date: 02.03.2026 at 17:30 hrs. onwards further details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Ele),
O&M Circle, MESCOM, Mangaluru

DIPR/DK/MPL/1680/25-26

For Power Related Complaints and Assistance Call Toll Free Number 1912

TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph: 04324-277 001(10 Lines). Email: insurance.fo@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Subject Matter	Date of publishing Tender document in TNPL/NIC website	Due date
2026-27/ TNPL/ INS/ Renewal/ Unit - I	Fixing of Insurer (s) for Renewal of various insurance policies covering **TNPL Unit - I** Properties, Employees, Interests, Liabilities etc., which are due for renewal on 27.05.2026. Quotes are invited from General Insurance Companies / Authorized Agents / Brokers - licensed by IRDAI.	12.03.2026	On or before 20.04.2026 before 10.00 AM
2026-27/ TNPL/ INS/ Renewal/ Unit - II	Fixing of Insurer (s) for Renewal of various insurance policies covering **TNPL Unit - II** Properties, Interests, Liabilities etc., which are due for renewal on 27.05.2026. Quotes are invited from General Insurance Companies / Authorized Agents / Brokers - licensed by IRDAI.	12.03.2026	On or before 20.04.2026 before 10.00 AM

TNPL will follow two bid system. Terms & conditions and sum insured details are available in the tender document which can be downloaded from **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/ app**

DIPR/1436/Tender/2026 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

TAMILNADU INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED (TIDCO)
No.19-A, Rukmini Lakshmipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008
CIN-U65993TN1965SGC005327

e-TENDER NOTICE

No. TIDCO/ICSCC/Coimbatore/2025-26 **Date: 27.02.2026**

TIDCO, a Government of Tamil Nadu enterprises, intend to select a Concessionaire for establishment of International Cricket Stadium at Coimbatore, on 'DBFOT' basis for a period of 35 years and develop a Commercial Complex in a leased land area close to proposed stadium site for a period of 60 years.

In this context, TIDCO invites interested firms to submit proposals for development of International Cricket Stadium & Commercial Complex as detailed in the tender document.

Interested firms can download the tender from the website **https://tidco.com** and https://tntenders.gov.in at free of cost.

The last date for submission of Proposals/Bids is at or before 15.00 Hours IST on 10.04.2026, through **https://tntenders.gov.in**.

The Managing Director
Tamilnadu Industrial Development Corporation Limited
19-A, Rukmini Lakshmipathi Road, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.
E-mail: cmd@tidco.com, Website : https://tidco.com

DIPR/1417/Tender/2026

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Traffic Engineering Cell Division, Room No.09,
Ground Floor, Annex Building-3, GBA Office Premises, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-02.

No. BCCC/EE/TEC/Tend/04/2025-26 Date: 23.02.2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (IFT)
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)
website: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

The Executive Engineer-Traffic Engineering Cell Division, BCCC, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work/Category
1.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Near Kadaraiahnapalya Junction" on Old Madras Road Connecting Kadiraiahnapalya to BDA Complex side (Across Both the Main Carriageway & Service Road), **(General).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
2.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Near Diamond District" on Old Airport Road, **(General).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
3.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Near Kamaraja Road and Cubbon Road Junction" across Cubbon Road & Kamaraja Road (Integrated), **(General).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
4.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "KIMS Medical College Junction on Krishna Rajendra Road", **(General).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
5.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Kengal Hanumanthaiah Road & Dr. Mari Gowda Road (Stock-35 Junction)" (Integrated) **(General).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
6.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Shivashankar Circle" on Krishna Rajendra Road & Lalbagh Fort Road (Integrated), **(SC).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
7.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Amar Junction" on Dhanvatri Road, **(SC).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
8.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Mysuru Bank Junction" on Kempe Gowda Road. (Integrated with KG Road, Palace Road, Post Office Road & Avenue Road), (Integrated), **(General).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**
9.	Construction of Skywalk under PPP Model on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) based on "Dynamic Duration" model under Commercial Advertisement rights at "Queens Junction". (Integrated with MG Road, Kasturaba Road, Lavelle Road & Queens Road), (Integrated) **(ST).** **EMD (in ₹): Rs.5.0 Lakhs (Rs. One Lakh through e-payment & remaining Rs. Four Lakhs as specified in bid document.**

Calendar of Events: (1) Availability of RFP online **25.02.2026 on wards (2)** Last Date for Tender queries : **05.03.2026 up to 3:00 p.m.** only through KPP Portal. **(3)** Pre bid meeting on **06.03.2026 at 3:00 p.m.** at the Office of the Chief Engineer, BCCC, Zone-1, 18th Floor, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Public Utility Building, M.G. Road, Bengaluru-560 001. **(4)** Last Date for Receipt of Tender is **13.03.2026 up to 5:00 p.m. (5)** Date of opening of Technical Bid is **16.03.2026 at 11:00 a.m. (6)** Date of opening of financial bid after approval to technical bid.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Traffic Engineering Cell Division, BCCC.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ನಗರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಶಹಾಪುರ
ಜಿ: ಯಾದಗಿರಿ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ.
Website:www.shahapurcity.gov.in e-mail: itstaff_ulb_shahapur@yahoo.com,

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ/ನಸಶ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/ಜಾ.ಪ್ರ./2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.02.2026

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ :

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ–2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಅಮೃತ್ 2.0 ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಅರ್ಹಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಗೆ/ಏಜೇನ್ಸಿರವರು ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಇ–ಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೂರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ www.kppp.karnatak.gov.in ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಅವ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

1) Name of works: IMPROVEMENT OF NAGARKERE (LAKE) IN SHAHAPUR CMC LIMITS UNDER AMRUT 2.0. **Indent Number:** DMA/2025-26/OW/WORK INDENT55528. **Estimate cast (in lakhs):** 234.24. **EMD (in Rs):** As per E-Portal. **Work period:**11 Month. **Class of contractor:** Class 1 and Above.

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ ದಿನಾಂಕ:26.02.2026 2) ಭರ್ತಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11.03.2026 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5:30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ 3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ:13.03.2026 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 5.15. ಘಂಟೆಗೆ 4) ವಿಳಾಸ: www.kppp.karnatak.gov.in

ಸಹಿ/– ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ ಶಹಾಪುರ

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/554/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಪಿ.ಎ/2025–26

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.2, 2/1 and 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar
Bengaluru - 560 009. Phone No. 080-22265383, website: www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/ETND-EP-88/3665/2025-26 Date: 26.02.2026

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

Item Rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited for the work mentioned below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Contractors who have got adequate financial resources, state of the art technology, suitable construction equipments, technical man power & sufficient past experience for the following work as per the schedule given below:

Name of the work: Providing street lights & shifting of re-routing of HT/LT line at left out roads and newly formed roads at 4th & 5th Phase of Avverahalli Industrial Area, Bengaluru Rural District.

The last date and time of receipt of tender is : **16.03.202**6 upto **4.00 pm.**

Applicants May Download Bidding Documents from the E-Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-1, KIADB Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/5895/Zen/2025-26

FORM NO. CAA-2

[Pursuant to Section 230(3) and Rule 6 and 7 of Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations), Rules 2016]

BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL, BENGALURU BENCH AT BENGALURU

And

In the Matter of Sections 230 to 232 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Other Applicable Provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 Read with Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules, 2016

And

In the Matter of Scheme of Arrangement between
NH INTEGRATED CARE PRIVATE LIMITED
And **NARAYANA HRUDAYALAYA LIMITED**
And
Their Respective Shareholders And Creditors

CA (CAA) NO. 50/BB/2025

NH INTEGRATED CARE PRIVATE LIMITED
CIN: U85190KA2023PTC170155
Having its registered office at:
No. 258/A, Bommasandra Industrial Area
Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru – 560 099
Represented by Dr. Emmanuel Rupert, Director
PAN: AAICN6968M

Applicant Company No. 1 / Demerged Company

NARAYANA HRUDAYALAYA LIMITED
CIN: L85110KA2000PLC027497
Registered Office:
No.258/A, Bommasandra industrial Area
Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru – 560 099
Represented by Mr. Sridhar S
Company Secretary/Authorized Signatory
PAN: AABCN1685J

Applicant Company No. 2 / Resulting Company

Applicant Company No. 1 & Applicant Company No. 2 together referred to as "Applicant Companies"

NOTICE OF THE MEETING OF EQUITY SHAREHOLDERS OF RESULTING COMPANY AND SECURED AND UNSECURED CREDITORS OF DEMERGED AND RESULTING COMPANIES

Notice is hereby given that by order dated February 13, 2026, the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru Bench ("**Hon'ble Tribunal**") has directed the convening of meetings of the secured creditors and unsecured creditors of Applicant Companies and equity shareholders of Applicant Company No. 2 (hereafter called as "**Meetings**") to be held for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving with or without modification, the Scheme of Arrangement between NH Integrated Care Private Limited and Narayana Hrudayalaya Limited and their respective shareholders and creditors ("**Scheme**") as mentioned above.

In pursuance of the said order and as directed therein, notice is hereby given for convening the Meetings of equity shareholders and creditors of Applicant Companies as under:

Date of Meeting April 2, 2026

Sr. No.	Name of the Company	Class of Meeting	Mode and Venue of Meeting	Time
1.	M/s. Narayana Hrudayalaya Limited Applicant Company No. 2/ Resulting Company	Equity Shareholders	Virtual meeting through NSDL platform	10:00 A.M
2.	M/s. Narayana Hrudayalaya Limited Applicant Company No. 2/ Resulting Company	Secured Creditors		11:30 A.M
3.	M/s. Narayana Hrudayalaya Limited Applicant Company No. 2/ Resulting Company	Unsecured Creditors		12:30 P.M
4.	M/s. NH Integrated Care Private Limited Applicant Company No. 1/ Demerged Company	Secured Creditors		2:00 P.M
5.	M/s. NH Integrated Care Private Limited Applicant Company No. 1/ Demerged Company	Unsecured Creditors		3:00 P.M

In pursuance of the aforesaid Order and as directed therein, and in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Act and the rules and circulars issued thereunder, as amended from time to time, and the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, further notice is hereby given that the Meetings of the secured creditors and unsecured creditors of Applicant Companies and equity shareholders of Applicant Company No. 2, will be held through video conferencing ("**VC**")/ other audio visual means ("**OAVM**") on Thursday, the 2nd day of April 2026 at the time given above and at which time the said equity shareholders/ creditors are requested to attend.

The notice, together with the documents accompanying the same, of the Meetings has been sent to the equity shareholders of Applicant Company No. 2 whose names appear in the register of members/ list of beneficial owners maintained by the Depositories/ Applicant Company No. 2 as mentioned below and; secured creditors and unsecured creditors whose names are appearing in the record of the Applicant Companies as mentioned below:

(i) through electronic mode to the equity shareholders and creditors whose e-mail IDs are registered with NSDL/ available with the Applicant Companies, and;

(ii) through registered post or courier to the creditors whose e-mail IDs are not available with the Applicant Companies.

Copies of the said Scheme, statement under Section 230 and Section 232 read with Section 102 and other applicable provisions of the Act, read with Rule 6 of the Companies (Compromises, Arrangements and Amalgamations) Rules 2016 ("**CAA Rules**") and accompanying documents are placed on the website of the Resulting Company and can be accessed at narayanahealth.org/stakeholder-relations/demerger-2026 and from the websites of the Stock Exchanges, ie, BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.bseindia.com and www.nseindia.com, respectively and on the website of NSDL at https://www.evoting.nsdl.com/ being the agency appointed by the Applicant Companies to provide e-voting and other facilities for the Meeting. If so desired, any person may obtain a physical copy of the Scheme, statement under Section 230 and Section 232 read with Section 102 and other applicable provisions of the Act and Rule 6 of the CAA Rules etc. free of charge. A written request in this regard, maybe addressed to the Company Secretary of the Applicant Companies at investorrelations@narayanahealth.org.

Person entitled to attend and vote at the aforesaid Meetings of equity shareholders and creditors of Applicant Companies may vote through remote e-voting to cast their respective votes prior to the date of Meeting or vote through e-voting at the Meeting by following the instructions given in the notice.

The Hon'ble NCLT has appointed Mr. Shri Theerthesh B S, Advocate as the Chairperson and Smt. Manali Shah, PCS, as the Scrutinizer of the said Meeting. The above-mentioned Scheme, if approved in the Meeting, will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Hon'ble NCLT and such approvals, permissions and sanctions of regulatory or other authorities, as may be necessary.

Equity shareholders holding shares in physical mode, who have not registered/updated their e-mail addresses with the Applicant Companies, are requested to register/update the same by writing to the Applicant Companies with details of folio number and attaching the self-attested copy of PAN card at investorrelations@narayanahealth.org.

Equity shareholders holding shares in dematerialized mode, who have not registered their e-mail addresses with their Depository Participant(s), are requested to register/update their e-mail addresses with the Depository Participant(s) with whom they maintain their demat account.

Equity shareholders/ creditors of Applicant Companies seeking any information with regard to the Scheme, or the matter proposed to be considered at the aforesaid Meeting, are requested to write to the Company at least seven (7) days before the date of the Meeting through email on investorrelations@narayanahealth.org.

Equity shareholders/ creditors of Applicant Companies are requested to note the following contact details for addressing e-voting related queries/grievances, if any to NSDL:

Email: evoting@nsdl.com. Website: https://www.evoting.nsdl.com
Call on: 022-4886 7000

Date:27-02- 2026
Place: Bengaluru

For and on behalf of
NH Integrated Care Private Limited

Sd/-
Dr. Emmanuel Rupert
Director

For and on behalf of
Narayana Hrudayalaya Limited

Sd/-
Mr. Sridhar S
Company Secretary/Authorized Signatory

High Court allows woman's plea to change daughter's surname in birth certificate

The presumption that a child must invariably bear the surname of the father is not a Constitutional mandate but a social convention, the court said

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Recognising the significance of maternal lineage in determining a child's surname in the best interests of a child born out of a live-in relationship, the Karnataka High Court has directed the Registrar of Births and Deaths, Bengaluru to change the name of an eight-year-old girl to reflect her Nepali mother's family name instead of her father's, while retaining the biological father's name in the birth certificate.

"Where the mother is the sole caregiver and natural guardian, in fact, there is no Constitutional impediment in recognising maternal lineage as the marker of the child's surname. Recognition of maternal identity does not diminish paternal status; it affirms parity," the court observed.

Only social convention

The presumption that a child must invariably bear the surname of the father is not a Constitutional mandate but a social convention, the court said, while pointing out that such a convention cannot override the Constitutional principle that men and women enjoy equal status in matters relating to family, parenthood, and identity.

Justice Suraj Govindraj passed the order while allowing the petition filed by the minor daughter and her 30-year-old mother, whose plea for changing daughter's surname in the birth certificate was rejected by the authorities without assigning any reason.

The child was born in February 2017 at K.C. General Hospital in Bengaluru out of a live-in relationship of the petitioner-woman with a man, also a native of Nepal. However, the father of the child subsequently expressed unwillingness to continue the relationship and left for his home town in Nepal, completely abandoning both the mother and the child, it was stated in the petition.

Since then, there has been no interaction, communication, or contribution from the father towards the child's upbringing, mother has been the sole caregiver, raising the child with the support of her maternal family, it was pointed out in the petition.

Rejecting the claim of the authorities that they have no power to make such a change in the name, the court said that the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969, empowers the Registrar to correct entries that are "erroneous in form or substance", a phrase broad enough to encompass not merely clerical errors but also errors going to the substance of the entry.

Father's name stays

Significantly, the court noted that the change sought does not involve the deletion of the father's name from the birth certificate. The column relating to the father would continue to reflect the biological father's name, ensuring that the factual and legal acknowledgment of paternity remains intact. The only change is to the child's surname, incorporating the maternal derivative and family name, the court said.

Applying the principle of the "best interest of the child", enshrined in Article 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and Article 21 of the Constitution of India, the court held that "the change in surname will promote the child's identity, dignity, well-being, and practical convenience, and is in best interest of the child".

Meanwhile, the court clarified that changing the surname of the child would not extinguish any rights that the child may have from the biological father under any law for the time being in force, including rights of inheritance, succession, and maintenance.

'City legislators will meet soon to discuss air quality, pollution issues'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre at a meeting in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre said that a meeting would be convened soon with MLAs representing all the 28 Assembly constituencies in Bengaluru to discuss issues related to pollution.

Mr. Khandre, who met Suresh Kumar, MLA for Rajajinagar, on Thursday, said that a meeting would soon be held to ensure that Bengaluru does not turn into "another gas chamber like Delhi".

According to Daily Air Quality Index (AQI) values data for January 2026, the Hebbal, Jayanagar, Mysore Road, NIMHANS, Central Silk Board, Jigani Industrial Area, RV College of Engineering, and Peenya Industrial Area stations crossed the 100 AQI mark in January. There are in all 11 stations in Bengaluru.

AQI ranging from 0-50 is considered good with minimal health impact. The AQI ranging from 51 to 100 is considered satisfactory and the possible health impacts are minor breathing discomfort to sensitive people. AQI ranging between 101 and 200 is considered moderate, and the possible health impacts are breathing discomfort to the people with asthma and heart diseases. AQI ranging from 301-400 is considered very poor, and the health impacts are respiratory illness on prolonged exposure. AQI ranging from 401-500 is considered severe, and the health impacts affect healthy people and seriously impact those with existing diseases.

The Minister said that after holding discussions with the Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar, a meeting will soon be convened under his chairmanship with all elected representatives of Bengaluru and senior officials of urban local bodies.

The Minister said that air, water and noise pollution are increasing in Bengaluru, and controlling them requires cooperation from all the public representatives.

Mr. Suresh Kumar raised the issue of dust pollution and deteriorating air quality in Bengaluru, leading to an increase in respiratory problems among children. In response to this Mr. Khandre, said that air quality is already being monitored at 11 fixed locations and through 13 mobile units across Bengaluru. He directed officials to issue notices to the local bodies concerned if the Air Quality Index (AQI) crosses 100 and instruct them to control pollution within a specified timeframe filing which action would be taken as per law.

Govt. warns health staff against protest; employees press pending service-related demands

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Health Department has warned employees of disciplinary action if they go ahead with proposed protests over pending service-related demands, even as staff associations stepped up pressure seeking promotions, seniority revision and opportunities for higher studies.

In a communication, the department cautioned that participation in agitation would invite action under conduct rules and urged employees not to disrupt public health services. Officials maintained that several corrective measures were already under way. Members of the Karnataka Government Medical Officers' Association and other employees' associations have flagged long delays in revising cadre and recruitment rules, some of which have not been comprehensively updated for nearly 50 years.

They have threatened to launch a phased agitation from March 11 and have given a 21-day notice to the government. The department said proposals sent to the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms were returned with objections and are being resubmitted with modifications.

IIA uses radio telescope, Aditya-L1 satellite payload to make key solar observation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Astronomers from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have made observations of shocks driven by coronal mass ejections (CMEs) from the Sun by using its Gauribidanur radio telescope and Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC) payload onboard Aditya-L1 satellite.

Thunder-like noise

A sonic boom is a thunder-like noise that occurs when the speed of an aircraft traveling through the air faster than the speed of sound. Similarly, fast CMEs from the Sun drive shocks near the Earth leading to space weather disturbances. "These shocks are primarily driven by the same set of CMEs, all the way from near the Sun through the interplanetary space. Shocks near the Sun are the birth stage of the shocks observed near Earth. The characteristic signatures of the shocks near the Sun are intense transient emission observed primarily with ground-based radio telescopes at low frequencies, typically <150 MHz," the IIA team said.

The IIA operates a radio telescope in the above frequency range, at the Gauribidanur radio observatory, located about 100 km north of Bengaluru. It is presently the only low-frequency radio telescope for dedicated observations of the Sun.

The team said that with the launch of VELC, built by IIA, it has become possible to identify the CMEs that give rise to the shocks, particularly near the Sun and in the visible wavelength range. Combining data obtained with the Gauribidanur radio facility and VELC, the VELC team at IIA has precisely estimated the onset distance of the shock due to the CME that occurred on May 27, 2024. It is approximately 130,000 km from the Sun. The shock driven by the CME propagated at a speed of approximately 1,700 km per second near the Sun.

Prof. R. Ramesh, senior professor at IIA and principal investigator of the VELC project, said that this is the closest distance from the Sun at which a CME driven shock and the associated radio transient have been observed unambiguously as on date.

Prof. Ramesh, who is handling the operations in the Gauribidanur facility, added that the present result would not have been possible but for the unique low-frequency observing capability of the Gauribidanur radio telescope and the possibility to observe the near-Sun solar corona with the VELC. The results will appear soon in the Journal of Astrophysics and Astronomy, a leading international journal.

Dr. C. Kathiravan, lead author of the publication, said continuous and coordinated observations of the Sun with Gauribidanur facilities and VELC during the current maximum phase of the ongoing sunspot cycle 25, as well as beyond, are expected to identify CME driven shocks as close as thirty thousand kilometers from the Sun.

India solving business issues at scale, but not social issues: MP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

India is solving its business issues at scale, yet at present, it is unable to solve its social issues at the same pace, observed Yaduveer Krishnadatta Chamaraja Wadiyar, MP for Mysuru, here on Wednesday.

While unveiling the Golden Jubilee Year logo of the Bangalore Chamber of Industry and Commerce (BCIC) here, Mr. Wadiyar said, "We are solving business issues at scale, but the social needs we are not able to solve at scale. So I would say an active alignment and a proactive agenda around CSR is required". It shouldn't be just about ticking a box but making a real difference, he said. He opined that regulatory frameworks should really catch up to ensure that economic growth reaches the last mile. "As we celebrate the Golden Jubilee, we must recognise that the strong 50-year foundation is not merely a milestone of the past, but launchpad for the next 50 years of India's growth journey," he said.

Tracing BCIC's roots and connection to the royal family, he said the trade body was established in the erstwhile State of Mysore under the leadership of Maharaja Nalwadi Krishna Raja Wadiyar and guided by Diwan Sir M. Visvesvaraya, with the support of Yuvraja Kantirava Narasimharaja Wadiyar. He noted that this early institution laid the foundation for structured industry-government collaboration in State. Drawing a parallel, he said BCIC continues that legacy by serving as a vital platform supporting policymakers and strengthening industry engagement.

Karnataka school teens make scientific mark with international journal publication

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

The young researchers being felicitated by the Department of Science and Technology ahead of the National Science Day. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Four young girls from Karnataka, one of them from a tribal community, have achieved a rare feat by co-authoring a research paper published in a Scopus-indexed international science journal.

Class 11 students, namely, Kirat Kaur from Bidar, S. Yamini from Hosadoddi village and Reshma J.V. from Hosahalli, H.D. Kote, and class 10 student Lakshmi G. from Kaggalipura village, contributed to research that explored an environmentally safe method to create copper-based nanoparticles using plant extracts.

Their research article titled "Green synthesis of saponin-capped copper (II) oxide (CuO) nanoparticles and their efficacy in photocatalytic dye degradation" was published in *Sustainable Chemistry One World*, a peer-reviewed, Scopus-indexed international journal by Elsevier.

'Access still a challenge'

"For students from tribal communities, the problem is not lack of skills or ability, but access. Most often, they don't know who to turn to. If they receive the right opportunities, they can show their abilities," said Ms. Reshma, a first-generation learner who hails from the Jenu Kuruba community and a student at Viveka Tribal Centre for Learning, Nagarahole Forest Region.

The students participated in the research between March and August 2024 as part of Anveshana, a fully funded science research programme by Prayoga Institute of Education Research.

The project was undertaken under the guidance of Subhadip Senapati, lead researcher - Chemistry, Vagdevi Rao K.C., research associate - Botany, and Parikshit Kumar, research associate - Green Energy Technology.

Students felicitated

The green copper-based nanoparticles developed in the research showed improved antibacterial and antioxidant activities, making them useful for biomedicinal applications. These particles can be used to purify contaminated water and eliminate harmful microbes, offering a low-cost and sustainable solution for rural and underserved communities where clean water access remains a challenge.

"We were already working on one part of the research. When the students expressed interest in it, a subset of the research was assigned to them. We showed them PowerPoint presentations, animations, and so on to simplify concepts and make them more interesting," said Mr. Kumar.

Ahead of the National Science Day, the students were felicitated by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, FEB. 27	
RISE	06:37
SET	18:28
RISE	14:38
SET	03:03
SATURDAY, FEB. 28	
RISE	06:36
SET	18:28
RISE	15:41
SET	04:00
SUNDAY, MAR. 01	
RISE	06:36
SET	18:28
RISE	16:40
SET	04:51

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	20
Mysuru	34	20
Bengaluru	31	20

Bengaluru Today
32°C The weather will be dry. Day will be little warm. Night will be slight cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
32°C Morning will be slight cool with mist and haze. Day will be little warm. Night also will be slight cool.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2026
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - I, AT: TRIVENI COMPLEX, 3rd FLOOR, ABIDS, HYDERABAD
O.A. No. 50 of 2026
HDFC Bank Ltd., ...Applicant
And
Mr. M Ashok Kumar Reddy ...Defendants
SUMMONS BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION
To,
Mr. M Ashok Kumar Reddy,
S/o. M Jayarami Reddy, Aged About 36 Years, Occ: Pvt. Employee, R/o. H No. 12-10-92/1/A/1, 2nd Floor, Peace Villa, Near Vivekananda School, Bharat Nagar, Moosapet, Balanagar, Hyderabad - 500018
Also at :
Mr. M Ashok Kumar Reddy
R/o. H No. 1-719/1, 3rd Raod,
Near Surya Public School, Anantapur - 515001
Also at :
Mr. M Ashok Kumar Reddy
C/o.Capgemini Technology Services India Ltd.,
R/o. XPF8+8V4 UNIT-2B, Export Promotion Industrial Park-8, Door No. 155-156,
EPIP Zone Whitefield Rd, Phase 2,
Brookefield, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560066
....Defendant/s
Please take the summons in the above O.A. No. 50/2026 filed by the applicant for recovery of money of .23,30,989.59/- against you. The Hon'ble Tribunal ordered summons to you by way of paper publication in **"VIJAYA KRANTI HYDERABAD & ANANTAPUR EDITIONS" & "THE HINDU BANGLORE EDITION"** daily newspaper and posted the matter to 30-03-2026.
In accordance with sub-section (4) of section 19 of the Act, you, the defendants, are directed as under;
I) To show cause within thirty days of the service of summons as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted;
ii) To disclose particulars of properties or assets other than properties and assets specified by the applicant under serial number 3A of the Original application;
iii) You are restrained from dealing with or disposing of secured assets or such other pending hearing and disposal of the application for attachment of properties;
iv) You shall not transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise, except in the ordinary course of his business any of assets over which security interest in created and/or other assets and properties specified or disclosed under serial number 3A of the original application without the prior approval of the Tribunal;
v) You shall be liable to account for the sale proceeds realized by the sale of secured assets of other assets and properties in the ordinary course of business and deposit such sale proceeds in the account maintained with the bank or financial institutions holding security interest over such assets.
You are hereby required to show cause on **30-03-2026** at 10.30 am at Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, 1st floor, Triveni Complex, Abids, Hyderabad - 500001, in person or by an Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case of default, the Application will be heard and determined in your absence.
M. Srinivas Reddy
Advocate

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -1 BENGALURU
4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.
DRC No. 1003/2019 FORM NO 14 (See Regulation 33 (2))
Union Bank of India
(Erstwhile Corporation Bank)
Attibele Branch, Vishnu Complex, Sarjapura Road Attibele.
Bengaluru - 562107, Karnataka.
...Certificate Holder
Versus
Sri Srinivas Phani Kamesh M.& others
...Certificate Debtors
DEMAND NOTICE
1. Sri. Srinivas Phani Kamesh M. S/o. Sri. Ramakrishna Maruvada,
Represented by his GPA Holder and Brother Sri. Mani Shankar Maruvada S/o. Ramakrishna Maruvada, No.8-5, Panchagat Lane, Lower Street, Peruru, Amalapuram Mandal, East Godavari District - 533 218
2. Sri. Mani Shankar Maruvada S/o. Ramakrishna Maruvada, No.8-5, Panchagat Lane, Lower Street, Peruru, Amalapuram Mandal, East Godavari District - 533 218, Andra Pradesh.
3. Sri. Kamalakar Reddy.B. S/o. Narasimha Reddy Byni, No.14-12, Karinipalli, Kothakota, Chittor-517 112, Andra Pradesh.
4.M/s. Prabhavathi Builders and Developers Private Limited, Represented by its Managing Director: Sri. B.E.Praveen Kumar No. 105, 9th Main, S.R.Naidu Layout. Opp. to Golden Park Apartments, Hongasandra, Bengaluru -560068
In view of the Recovery Certificate issued in **OA No 1069/2018** passed by the Hon'ble Presiding Officer **DRT,** Bengaluru on **04.10.2019** an amount of **Rs. 1,11,83,090/-**(Rupees One Crore Eleven Lakh Eighty Three Thousand and Ninety Only) is due against you along with interest and costs from the date of filling O.A. till realization.
You are hereby called upon to deposit the above sum within 15 days of receipt of notice, failing which the recovery shall be made as per rules.
In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate/execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other process and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due
Given under my hand and the seal of this Tribunal, on this **20th day of Nov 2019**
Note: Attention is invited to Rule 16 to the Second Schedule of the Income Tax Act 1961 read with Recovery of Debts and Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 which is reproduced below :
(1)"Rule 16(1) where a notice has been served on a defaulter under Rule 2, the defaulter or his representative in interest shall not be competent to mortgage, charge, lease or otherwise deal with any property belonging to him except with the permission of the Debts Recovery Officer, nor shall be any civil court issue any process against such property in execution of a decree for the payment of money.
Where an attachment has been made under this schedule any private transfer or delivery of the property attached or of any Interest therein and any payment to the defaulter of any debt, dividend or other monies contrary to such attachment, shall be void, as against all claims enforceable under the attachment."
Sd/-Recovery Officer-1
Debts Recovery Tribunal-1, Bengaluru

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath Chandrasekar (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

For more than three years now, over 1.77 crore workers in Karnataka covered by the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, are desperately waiting for a revision. Though the Act mandates revision of wages at least once in five years, it has been nine years since the last wage revision process was completed in 2016-17.

Frozen wages, soaring prices

The compounded inflation rate in Karnataka between 2012 and 2024 has been calculated to be at 208.3%. With minumum wage revision hanging fire, workers have a tough time coping with the rising cost of living, reports **Sharath S. Srivatsa**

Mahadevappa A., a casual worker at a factory in Jigani, was elated when in April 2025, he was informed of an impending hike in his salary after the government notified increase in minimum wages across sectors of employment.

Nearly a year later, his mood, and that of thousands of workers like him, is no longer upbeat. The notification proposing the hike has remained a draft, with the government dithering on finalising the wage hike.

In his late 30s and a native of T. Narasipura in Mysuru district, Mahadevappa has been working as a casual worker for nearly two decades now. His current gross salary is about ₹15,300 per month, and he had his hopes pinned on the hike to cope with escalating cost of living. "The rent is high and add to it the high school fee. Cost of every food item has gone up too. How do you expect a family to lead a decent life with what we earn?" he asked. He and many of his colleagues have been taking up overtime jobs to earn additional income, but at the cost of social life. His spouse also takes up odd jobs to augment the family income.

Over 1.77 crore workers

For more than three years now, over 1.77 crore workers like Mahadevappa, covered by the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, are desperately waiting for a revision. Though the Act mandates revision of wages at least once in five years, this cycle of revision – due in 2022-23 – has not been completed yet. It has been nine years since the last wage revision process was completed in 2016-17.

There is a general difference of about ₹4,000 to ₹5,000 in monthly minimum wage between garment workers and workers in other employments. M.A. SRIRAM

Bringing hopes in desperate times, the State government on April 11, 2025 proposed fresh minimum wages ranging from ₹25,714 per month for unskilled worker to ₹34,225 per month in Zone 1, which includes Bengaluru; to ₹19,319 per month for unskilled worker to ₹28,285 per month for highly skilled worker in Zone 3. The draft, for the first time, fixed minimum wages for 18 scheduled employments apart from revising minimum wages in the rest. Minimum wages have been notified in a total of 81 scheduled employment.

How it was calculated

For the first time in Karnataka, guidelines laid down by Supreme Court in the landmark Raptakos Brett case in 1992 was followed to arrive at the wages. In a departure from the past minimum wage revision, Karnataka considered non-vegetarian diet to calculate the cost of food (2,700 calories per consumption unit) to form the minimum wage matrix. The inclusion of non-vegetarian diet has been a long-standing demand of the labour unions, which have argued that about than 80% of the State's population consumes meat.

Immediately after the draft was published, the industry bodies took exception to what they termed as "steep hike", and petitioned the government against its implementation. The draft received more than 150 objections/ suggestions from the industries/ industry bodies.

> Minimum wage is already a subsistence wage. The tinkering of the Consumer Price Index, based on which the minimum wages are arrived at, causes further injustice to the workers
>
> **MEENAKSHI SUNDARAM**
> CITU general secretary

With the Karnataka State Minimum Wages Advisory Board, a tripartite body with members from industries, unions and government, delving on the issue, also unable to come to any conclusion after two meetings, the decision is now with the government. As deliberations at the government level are still under way, four cases landed up in Karnataka High Court against the proposed revision.

Will hurt MSMEs

"The proposed hike is too steep and will affect the viability of the MSME sector where 93% of the workforce in Karnataka is employed," said B.C. Prabhakar, president of Karnataka Employees' Association (KEA), which was a petitioner in one of the cases before the Karnataka High Court. He argued that a hike at this scale is disadvantageous to the MSMEs in Karnataka when compared to MSMEs in neighbouring States where minimum wages are lower.

Uma Reddy, president of Federation of Karnataka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI), concurred and said, "Minimum wages should be comparable with other States and neither too low nor too high. With high wages, it will be difficult for the sector to grow." She said the government should either incentivise the enterprises to pay higher wages or exclude the micro and small enterprises from the policy framework. "Micro and small enterprises cannot be in the same bracket with large industries."

On the other hand, the unions, which have welcomed the draft notification and seek its implementation, point to critical flaws in the method of calculation adopted that they claim have depressed the proposed minimum wages by at least 20%. Along with the cost of food, clothing and shelter, the wage calculation should also consider new age requirements such as mobile phone and data bills, the unions have said and also pointed out that rate of Variable Dearness Allo- wance (VDA) increase has not kept pace with inflation.

Erosion of wages

The compounded inflation rate in Karnataka between 2012 and 2024 has been calculated to be at 208.3%. The wage increase in these scheduled employments is calculated in terms of VDA, statutorily announced once a year by the State government. Considering the VDAs announced in the corresponding period, the quantum of wage increase is ₹5,814 per month. If one were to get a monthly salary of ₹10,000 in 2012, the salary would have increased to ₹15,814, which is roughly 58% increase, showing that the annual wage increase through VDA does not catch up with inflationary trends.

General secretary of Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) Meenakshi Sundaram feels that it is critical to guard against the erosion of real wages of the workers. "Not only should the purchasing power be protected, but also provide for them to participate in the economy. Minimum wage is already a subsistence wage. The tinkering of the Consumer Price Index, based on which the minimum wages are arrived at, causes further injustice to the workers."

Even as the hiring of casual labour increases in government and in large industries against the permanent work force since labour cost is cheap, the lower minimum wage is leading to exploitation, warned the All India Trade Union Congress general secretary D.A. Vijaybhaskar. "In order to reduce the exploitative gap between the permanent and contract workers, it is essential to increase the minimum wage based on real needs."

The genesis of the minimum wage imbroglio goes back to 2022-23 when the current cycle of revision commenced during the BJP government with notification of revised minimum wages for 36 employments with a hike ranging from 5% to 10%. The AITUC, which termed the hike as unilateral and flagged that the guidelines of Reptacos Brett had not been followed, approached the High Court of Karnataka, which eventually stayed the draft. After the Congress government came to power, a fresh wage revision was announced based on Apex Court laid down guidelines in April 2025.

Garment sector issues

Even as the government took up wage revision in 81 scheduled employments, 19 employments, including garment work, have been excluded. Unions in the garment industry that employs about four lakh women have been fighting for fair wages for over a decade now. Over the last four decades, attempts to increase minimum wages in 2009, 2010 and 2018 have resulted in court cases, inordinately delaying the revision.

"Instead of a hike in minimum wage, we get an increased VDA hike. There is a huge gap between the VDA and general price rise. Unions are not there to negotiate. Workers are simply suspended for raising their voice," said a worker at a garment factory in Bommasandra. "After 19 years of work, my take home salary does not exceed ₹15,000. House rents have gone up in Bommasandra after the metro connectivity. Legislators' salaries get increased every now and then, but every effort to raise minimum wages is stonewalled," said the worker, who wished to remain anonymous.

Wages have also been fixed arbitrarily, and absence of factory-level workers' unions have compounded the problems. In 2018, basic wage was initially increased to ₹459.81 per day for unskilled workers in Zone 1, which was withdrawn later and downwardly revised to ₹349.44 per day in 2019 after a tripartite committee decision in which government and industry representatives voted together against the garment workers' demand. In 2023, basic wage was increased to ₹401.07 per day for unskilled and ₹434.48 for highly skilled workers per day.

Currently, an unskilled worker is paid ₹12,818 per month and semi-skilled worker is paid ₹13,085 a month, while a highly skilled worker gets paid ₹ 13,686 per month.

"The government has revised the basic wage without considering ground realities both in 2018 and 2023. What was fixed in 2023 is far less than what was initially proposed in 2018 when wage revision was common for all 81 scheduled employment," R. Prathiba, president of Garments and Textiles Workers' Union (GATWU) said. By deliberately keeping the garment sector away from the minimum wage revision, the government is causing injustice to the workers, who are mostly women, she added.

The wage has been an issue in the garment industry as the Indian garment industry competes in a highly price sensitive international market with other countries. There is a general difference of about ₹4,000 to ₹5,000 in monthly minimum wage between garment workers and workers in other employments.

For instance, the prevailing minimum wage for highly skilled jobs in the garment industry fetches ₹13,686 per month against ₹19,468 for a highly skilled job in the automobile sector in Zone 1. In the past, unions have tried bring pressure on wage hike implementation through international campaigns. "The historical injustice to garment workers has continued with the government deciding to initiate wage hike through a committee. There has been no fixed time frame too," said GATWU joint secretary K.R. Jayaram.

Shadow of Labour Codes

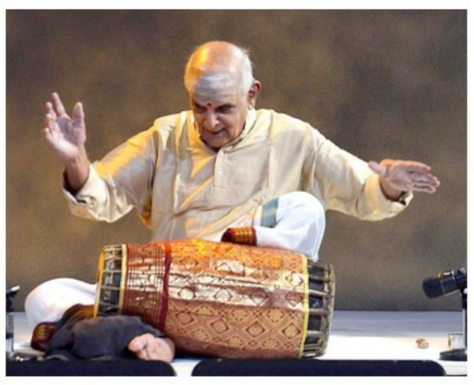
Meanwhile, as the State government dithered over finalising the wage revision, the notification of four Labour Codes by the BJP-led Union Government on November 21, 2025, seems to have complicated the decision-making though unions have repeatedly pointed out that the Codes do not come in the way of revising minimum wages. The new Industrial Codes have subsumed The Payment of Wages Act, 1936, Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 and Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 - all related wages to workers – even as the concept of scheduled employments has been done away with.

Both labour unions and the management representatives have been differing in their point of view over implementation of minimum wages after the four new Codes came into force. "Legally, there is no scheduled employment now and the Minimum Wages Act has been repealed with the notification of Code on Wages, 2019. The power to fix minimum wages under old Acts has been taken away by the new Code. The State government can fix new minimum wages only after the Centre fixes the floor wage," Mr. Prabhakar argued.

The Joint Committee of Trade Unions (JCTU), an umbrella platform bringing together nine trade unions in Karnataka, however, has pointed out provisions in the Codes that do not bar implementation of the minimum wages. The JCTU, in its memorandum in December, 2025, urging the government to implement minimum wages immediately, has said that the provisions in the Code on Wages provide ample opportunities to the government to ensure that the process/ action of revision of minimum wages, under way and nearing completion, can be continued under the new Labour Code as well.

The Labour Department, meanwhile, is learnt to have sought opinion from the Law Department over implementation of the minimum wages in the light of Codes coming into effect.

The Department sources say that the decision on the minimum wages will only be made in consultation with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, even as the AITUC plans a State-wide protest against the delay in implementation of minimum wages on March 5.



Just beat it (Clockwise from left) Bickram Ghosh, Swarupa Ananth, Umayalpuram K Sivaraman, Ishaan Ghosh, Shravan Samsi, Charu Hariharan and Praveen Sparsh (below) will be at the festival this year. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Rhythm rendezvous

The fourth edition of the Mahindra Percussion Festival, organised in association with *The Hindu*, turns the spotlight on diverse styles

Neha Kirpal

India is a rhythmically diverse nation, where every region nurtures and practises its own percussive dialect. To unify this musical spirit, the Mahindra Percussion Festival, organised in association with *The Hindu*, returns to Bengaluru with its fourth edition on March 7 and 8.

Presenting a curated line-up of artistes across generations, regions and rhythmic expressions, the two-day festival celebrates legendary musicians and contemporary ensembles, besides putting the spotlight on percussion.

"Percussion has always been an integral part of India's musical culture. Through this festival, we aim to bring together artistes from across the country – each with a different identity, yet converging as one in India's evolved musical tradition. It is our attempt to reach out to the next generation," says Jay Shah, vice president and head of cultural outreach at the Mahindra Group.

A highlight of this edition is 'Nada Pravaham - Circle of Sound – a collaboration between mridangam maestro Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman, along with formidable instrumentalists Ishaan Ghosh and Shravan Samsi.

"India is known as the land of chants, shlokas and rhythms. The opening act is a curated set with multi-generational Hindustani, Carnatic and Western classical artistes," says Ishaan.

"The festival not only promotes our cultural legacy, but also caters to contemporary audience. This festival is unique because it is dedicated to percussion and brings together instrumentalists on a single platform," feels Sivaraman. According to Shravan, the festival also makes space for innovations in rhythm along with showcasing celebrated traditions.

Vocalist Mahesh Kale will strike an unusual note with 'Yatra,' which is a tribute to Maharashtra's bhakti culture. Percussionists will be the mainstay of this performance too. "Rhythm is not just about sound, but also being in harmony with the inner rhythm. This defines 'Yatra' and the pulse of our devotional music. I feel this festival is one of the most apt platforms for this production," shares Mahesh.

The festival will also feature an all-women performance titled 'Women Who Drum'. It is a groundbreaking collective of women artistes, including Swarupa Ananth (tabla), Charu Hariharan (mridangam), Nush Lewis (harp), Amirthavarshini Manishankar (thavil), and Shalini Mohan (bass).

This ensemble includes the tabla, mridangam and harp. "It's amazing that the festival has decided to feature women percussionists who rarely get a chance to perform at such major events. The highlight of this ensemble is the collaborative and creative spirit," says Charu.

Nush and Swarupa can't agree more. The festival is sure to inspire many youngsters to pursue their musical passion. Apart from bringing to the fore the collective ability of different ensemble, it will also celebrate individual skill, says the duo.

Nanbargal Gramiya Kalai Kuzhu ensemble, Mylai M. Karthikeyan, Dholak Kaccha and Laxman Arvind are part of 'The Parai Awakens - Unreserved Live' by Praveen Sparsh. It highlights the festival's commitment to amplify every voice within the musical landscape. The act brings one of Tamil Nadu's oldest folk instruments into the mainstream through reinvention and reclamation.

Says Praveen: "I see music as existing in two broad forms – one led by lyrics that guide the listener through emotion and narrative, and the other, instrumental, where the listener's imagination shapes the experience. Percussion takes this abstraction a step further. It invites both the artiste and the audience into a more open, immersive space of listening. In that sense, a festival dedicated exclusively to percussion becomes a rare blessing – for the artistes to express themselves freely, and for audiences to engage with rhythm in its most expansive form."

The festival will conclude with Grammy-nominated tabla artiste Bickram Ghosh's 'Drums of the East'. It bridges Hindustani classical and contemporary music. Bickram conceived this presentation to celebrate the deep and spiritually charged rhythmic traditions and sounds of Bengal. The show layers tabla, electronic percussion and body drums. The ensemble also includes Gopal Barman on the sreekhol; Ranjan De on the dhol; Gokul Dhaaki and team; and Abhisek Mallick on the electric sitar.

"Man discovered the beat before the note. At one point, communication happened through beats when language had not yet evolved. Percussion is healing and joy-giving, because a percussion instrument says a lot about a culture and where it hails from. This festival will be a kaleidoscope of rhythm and energies. It gives the audience an opportunity to see, learn and imbibe India's rhythmic gamut, which is increasing every day," believes Bickram Ghosh.

The Mahindra Percussion Festival will take place on March 7 and 8 at the Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Bengaluru. Tickets on BookMyShow

A bit of Bandra in Bengaluru

With good beer, juicy burgers, rock music, and an old- school vibe, Woodside Inn opens its doors in Indiranagar

Anagha Maareesha
anagha.maareesha@thehindu.co.in

When I told my Mumbai friends that Woodside Inn is opening in Bengaluru, their eyes lit up. The bar, that first opened in Colaba in 2007, is a favourite for its laid-back vibe and craft beers on tap. The old school atmosphere, and pub grub has made it a classic. With outlets in Andheri and Bandra, the brew pub has now made its way to Indiranagar.

It is a hot afternoon when we arrive to check out the new Woodside Inn. The cool blast of the AC, the cosy wood paneled interiors and the rock music playing from the speakers makes us feel welcome instantly. Bengaluru may be the cocktail bar and brewery capital of the country, but we used to be known for our moody pubs playing 'Roadhouse Blues'. This took me back.

Spread over two floors, the brew pub has a warm lights and teal coloured accents. There is a small outdoor area with a couple of seats as well. The bar is stocked with craft beers, with options from city-based breweries such as Toit, Geist, Red Rhino and Mannheim.

We are welcomed by co-founder, Pankil Shah, who shares how his time in the US inspired him to start the brew pub. While they are known for their beers, Pankil recommends me a few cocktails to try, and the bar bites that pair best with them.

I try a Mahura Sour, and my friend has the Tangerine Lemon Drop. My drink is made with the Indian craft brand Six Brothers Mahura. Mahura is a spirt made with the flowers of the Madhuca longifolia tree, common in Jharkhand and Odisha. The drink is a take on the whiskey sour, so it is mixed with citrus and bitters. It is a slightly sweet and refreshing. The Tangerine Lemon Drop has gin, triple sec, Limoncello and mandarin orange. It is bright and citrussy.

Nibbles and nostalgia Woodside Inn in Bengaluru. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

We have the ale battered onion rings with our drinks. The rings are crisp, and spicy thanks to the Jamaican jerk seasoning dusted on them. Another favourite is the BBQ rubbed sweet potato chips. The wafer fried chips are served with a creamy and warm spinach and artichoke dip. The buttermilk fried chicken is also delicious.

We try another round of cocktails, and this time the winner is the Watermelon Kaffir Lime Fizz. It is made with white rum, kaffir lime, sea salt and watermelon – a summery number.

The large plates include burgers, pizzas, pastas and mains like steaks and grilled fish. We keep it simple and get a pesto pasta. The freshly made pesto with toasted pine nuts is outstanding. We skipped dessert, but we hear they do a mean chocolate cake.

With karaoke nights and DJ events with local artists in the mix, Woodside Inn is already popular with Bengaluru diners.

Cost for two ₹1,500. At 80-feet road, Indiranagar. For more details, call 9148729675

STEPOUT

Straight from the heart

Omme Hennagu, a theatrical adaptation of stories from Banu Mushtaq's *Edeya Hanate* (Heart Lamp), will be performed by Rangayana Mysore artistes Shashikala BN and Nandini KR today. There will also be a discussion with Banu Mushtaq and the cast after the staging.

On February 27 from 6.30pm at Indian Heritage Academy, Koramangala. Go to azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/events to register

Fabric and friendship

Iconic British designer Dame Zandra Rhodes and Indian design Rajeev Sethi will be in the the city on Monday. The duo will discuss the evolving role of design in sustaining cultural heritage, the transformative power of collaboration, and the personal bond that has sustained their creative dialogue over four decades.

On March 2, from 6.30pm at Bangalore International Centre (BIC). Entry free, but registration on BIC site is required.

Laugh it off

Comedian and content creator Rohan Joshi will be in the city this weekend bringing a brand-new set that shines a light into "his mid-life awakening, complete with sharp observations, self-aware humour, exploring adulthood, responsibility, and the inevitable evolution into the classic Indian uncle". A founding member of the comedy collective All India Bakchod, Rohan has made a name for himself with content that is relatable.

On February 28 from 7.30pm at FAN Park, Phoenix Mall of Asia. Tickets on BookMyShow.

‘Align hirings with changing economy’

The Karnataka Policy and Planning Commission and the Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission have argued against ‘automatic’ replacement of retiring staff; their reports were submitted to the government in recent months

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

The protest by aspirants for public employment in Dharwad seems to have put the ruling dispensation under pressure, while about 36% of the sanctioned posts in the State government are currently lying vacant. The Opposition has been quick to seize the opportunity and extend support to the protesting candidates.

While the State government’s current predicament comes around the confusion and judicial intervention in the internal reservation issue that has stalled recruitment for nearly a year now, two key commissions – reports of which were submitted to the government in recent months – have cautioned the government against “automatic” replacement of retiring staff.

Top six departments with vacancies

Department	Sanctioned posts	Vacant posts	Outsourced
School Education and Literacy	2,84,086	79,694	48,728
Home	1,30,029	28,188	117
Health, Medical Education	75,411	37,572	0
Urban Development	39,227	16,937	383
Revenue	32,792	10,867	1,607
Higher Education	24,788	13,599	1,173

*Source: Second Karnataka Administrative Reform Commission

JOBS	Total sanctioned strength	Working posts	Vacant posts	Outsourced posts
	8,16,388	51,886	2,94,870	70,492

Planning panel report

The Karnataka Policy and Planning Commission, headed by B.R. Patil, which submitted its report recently, is learnt to have cautioned the government against filling up existing vacancies on “as-is” basis, especially in the faculty recruitment for Karnataka’s higher education system. Of the 24,788 posts in higher education, 13,599 are currently vacant and the government has sanctioned filling up of 2,000 posts.

The education sub-committee in the commission is learnt to have pointed out that hiring without rethinking higher education’s future runs the risk of misalignment with rapidly evolving economy, which is being driven by Artificial Intelligence, automation, and emerging industries. The sub-committee, sources said, was not against recruitment and also acknowledged significant shortage of teaching staff across government degree colleges and State universities.

“Technological shifts such as AI, digitisation, and new labour models, have reduced the market’s reliance on generic degrees. Many traditional degree programmes across social sciences, humanities, and general sciences were historically valued for symbolic degree capital rather than job-linked competence,” the source explained.

Further, the source said: “Sanctioned faculty posts reflect older disciplinary boundaries, curriculum modes, and staffing patterns. A blind recruitment exercise has the risk of locking public resources into outdated programme architecture that may no longer serve societal or economic priorities.”

Automatic replacement

Meanwhile, though the second Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission headed by R.V. Deshpande identified 2.94 lakh vacant posts as against the sanctioned strength of 8.16 lakh in the State, it also cautioned against automatic replacement of retiring staff and has called for periodic review of sanctioned posts, besides abolition of redundant and obsolete posts.

Interestingly, in the Backward Classes Welfare Department, the ARC identified 240 BE graduates, 180 MTech graduates, and about 2,000 MCA/BBA/BCA graduates working as kitchen and allied staff, revealing the desperation for government job. A significant number of BE/MTech/MCA graduates are working as first division and second division clerks or junior assistants.

Though it has recommended recruitment in a time-bound manner, the ARC also asked the government to review posts to justify afresh with current relevance and necessity.

(This is the second of a three-part series)

Sub-classification issue

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Public recruitments have been hit over the last year-and-a-half over the issue of Scheduled Castes sub-classification following the August 2024 order of the Supreme Court. While the recruitment had been stopped for about a year, the government has relaxed the age eligibility criteria to provide a chance for candidates who have crossed the limit. The sub-classification case as well as case against hiking quota to 56%, being heard in the High Court, had hit recruitment. However, on Thursday, the State government decided to stick to 50% quota and restart recruitment process.

The cost of recruitment

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The demand to fill up 2.94 lakh vacant posts is coming around a time when the share of committed expenditure that includes salaries and pension has gone up, especially after the implementation of the pay commission recommendations. While the estimated expenditure on salaries is ₹85,860 crore for 2025-2026, pension was ₹37,655 crore, which is about 40% of the revenue expenditure that was pegged at ₹3.11 lakh crore. The funding for five guarantee schemes – estimated to be around ₹55,000 crore – has only widened revenue deficit. The Finance Department – over the years and across all governments – has also been tough on the question of hiring of personnel that is contributing to the ballooning revenue expenditure.

Parameshwara says he will not lobby for CM’s post

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Distancing himself from slogans raised by his supporters in Tumakuru projecting him as the “next Chief Minister”, Home Minister G. Parameshwara clarified that he would not lobby for the post, as the decision rests solely with the Congress high command.

Speaking to reporters, Dr. Parameshwara said he had no role in the slogans raised by his followers and maintained that leadership decisions would be taken by the party at the appropriate time.

G. Parameshwara

“I am not prepared to create any more confusion, and our high command will take a decision at the appropriate time,” he stated. “I am not going to do any lobbying,” he said, adding that he was not going to Delhi.

Dr. Parameshwara, who has previously served as KPCC president and Deputy Chief Minister, remarked that while his well-wishers might express their opinions, but he had advised them against doing so.

As speculation over a possible leadership change continues – with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar facing renewed questions over the prospect of a Dalit Chief Minister – Dr. Parameshwara has reiterated that he is capable of taking on the role if given the opportunity.

Family courts can’t be liberal in giving adjournments only because litigant is woman: HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Family courts and the High Court cannot adopt a liberal approach to grant adjournments only because applications are filed by women litigants, as such an approach would open the floodgates for taking adjournments and protracting the litigation, said the High Court of Karnataka.

The court made this observation while imposing a cost of ₹10,000 on a woman who had protracted the proceeding in 2019 on her husband’s plea before the Bengaluru family court for dissolution of their marriage and had obtained more than ₹27 lakh as interim maintenance from him during this period.

Justice Chillakur Sumalatha passed the order while dismissing the petition filed by a 35-year-old woman from Kanakapura town in Bengaluru South district. The petitioner had questioned the family court’s order rejecting her plea for further cross-examining her husband.

“This case reveals a very sorry state of affairs. In case the litigation in Indian courts is carried out in the manner in which the proceedings in this case went on till now, no case will be disposed within a decade. Breach of mandate of law is clearly found...”, the court observed while noticing that the petitioner did not complete the process of cross-examination for all these years and had been seeking permission for “further cross-examination” and adjournments at regular intervals.

3,000 new buses sought by State undertakings in Budget

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Transport and Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy said that the Transport Department has sought 3,000 new buses for the State transport fleet in the upcoming Budget.

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru on Wednesday, he said: “We are yet to receive confirmation on how many buses we will get.”

He said that tenders for smart cards, which recently received Cabinet clearance, will be floated soon. “Once the tenders are finalised, it will again go to the Cabinet. Initially, we expect about 3 crore citizens to avail themselves of the smart card,” he said. He expects introduction of smart cards to help achieve accuracy in maintaining data, and provide precise information about commuters, communities, and students using bus transport.

Ramalinga Reddy

Mr. Reddy unveiled the logo of 5K Safe-A-Thon, which is an event that will be held in Bengaluru on March 7 to raise awareness about road safety.

The Safe-A-Thon will be held under the motto ‘Namma Raste - Namma Surakshathe’, which means ‘Our Road - Our Safety’, and will include walking, cycling, and running. The event will have no entry fee. Interested citizens can register through www.saferoadskarnataka.com.

The Safe-A-Thon will be flagged off at Kanteerava Stadium. Participants will have to cover 5 km, passing through Kasturba Road, Queens Road, Ambedkar Veedhi, and Corporation Circle before concluding at Kanteerava Stadium.

According to Mr. Reddy, nearly 1.70 lakh people die in road accidents in India and 4.50 lakh citizens are injured. In Karnataka, 11,000 people die every year, and 25,000 are injured in accidents.

BENGALURU WEST CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Mahalakshmipuram Division, 12th Main, 11th Cross,
West of Chord Road, BWCC, Bengaluru.

No: EE/MLP/TEND/E-PROC/16/2025-26 Date: 26-02-2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

Tenders on item rate basis are invited by the Executive Engineer, Mahalakshmipuram Division, BWCC, Bengaluru for the works detailed below from the registered Contractors of BWCC or equivalent registration with CPWD / KPWD / Railways / MES / BBMP or any State Government Organizations.
(Standard Tender Document - KW-1, KW-2 KW-3 & KW-4)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Improvements of Roads, Drains and Other Allied Works at Ganesha Block, Saraswathipuram, Sathyanarayana Layout and Surrounding Area in Mahalakshmipuram Ward No. 48. **Approximated Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 205.94, EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 3.09**
2	Improvements to Roads and Drains at Vivekananda Park Surrounding Area and Ward Limits Roads in Nagapura Ward No. 49. **Approximated Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs): 205.92, EMD Amount (Rs. in Lakhs): 3.09**

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 04-03-2026 after 16.30 Hours. 2)** Last Date for Receipt of Queries: **07-03-2026 upto 15.00 Hours. 3)** Pre Bid Meeting will be held on **07-03-2026 at 15.30 Hours. 4)** Last Date for Uploading the Filled Proposals is **13-03-2026 upto 16.00 Hours. 5)** Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is **16-03-2026 after 16.30 Hours through KPP Portal.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Mahalakshmipuram Division, BWCC.

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
Corporation Identification Number (CIN): U04010KA2002SGC030436

No: GESCOM/GM/DCA(A)/AO(A)/AAO(A)/Counselling/2025-26/87964 Date:26.02.2026

:: NOTIFICATION::

In pursuance to GESCOM Employment Notification dated 14.10.2024 and Final Selection Lists published on 11.11.2025, for the posts of **Junior Powerman (KK/NKK)** in GESCOM, the counselling process for issuing appointment orders to the selected candidates is scheduled to be held on **11.03.2026 at 10:00 AM at Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi-585102.** For more details please visit Recruitment link in GESCOM website. **https://gescom.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1124/KSMC&A/2025-26

Sd/- General Manager (A & HRD)
Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
MINOR IRRIGATION AND GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DIVISION,
KALABURAGI, e-mail: midnglb@rediffmail.com / midnglb1@gmail.com Ph.08472 - 220196

IFT No. EE/MI &GWD D/KAL/PB-3/2025-26/ 5425 DATED : 25-02-2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (IFT KW-1,2,3 & 4)

1) Detail of Work : **THE EXEUCTIVE ENGINEER, M.I. & G.W.D. DIVISION, KALABURAGI INVITES TENDER FROM THE ELIGIBLE TENDERERS FOR THE WORK UNDER 4702 APB,/ C.M.I.D.P./ 4702 M.O.T & S.C.P. & T.S.P. FOR THE YEAR 2025-26** 2) Amount of Estimate : **Max. Rs. 201,54,016.31 Min. Rs.3,35,662.95,** 3) Eligibility of Contractor : Class - 4 & Above 4) Details of Tender Application Amount and EMD Amount : Tender Fee As Per KPP Portal E.M.D. Max. Rs.**3,03,000.00, Min. Rs. 8,400.00**, 5) PRE-BID MEETING DATE : 10.03.2026 Up to 11.00 Hours 6) Last Date & Time for Tender Queries/ Clarifications : 11.03.2026 Up to 11.00 Hours 7) Last Date & Time for Receipt of Tenders : 12.03.2026 Up to 17.30 Hours 8) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid : 13.03.2026 Up to 17.30 Hours 9) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid : 16.03.2026 Up to 17.30 Hours 10) Addl. information : Executive Engineer M.I. & G.W.D. Division, Kalaburagi Address of E-Portal. : (https:// kppp.Karnataka.gov.in)

DIPR/Kalaburagi/1121/
Deshpande Publicity/2025-26

Sd/- Executive Engineer
Minor Irrigation and Ground Water
Development Division, Kalaburagi

KSPCA flags delay in posting Dy. SPs to stations under DCRE

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka State Police Complaints Authority (KSPCA) has written to the Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, raising concerns over the delay in appointing Deputy Superintendents of Police (Dy. SPs) to several police stations under the Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement (DCRE).

Considering the recommendation, the Secretary of the Social Welfare Department has directed the Social Welfare Commissioner to take necessary action to upgrade 21 Inspector posts to Dy.SP posts and include the sanction of staff allowance in the budget for the year 2026-27.

In his letter, Mohan Kumar Danappa, member of the KSPCA, referred to a government notification issued on December 6, 2024, which designated DCRE units under the Social Welfare Department as special police stations.

TNIHPL Tamil Nadu Industrial Housing Private Limited
CIN: U70109TN2022PTC155744
Regd.Office: 19-A, Rukmani Lakshmipathy Road, Post Box No.7223, Egmore, Chennai-600 008, Phone: 044 4526, Fax: 4526 1796, Email: projects@tnihpl.in

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR INDUSTRIAL HOUSING FACILITY IN TAMIL NADU INDUSTRIAL HOUSING PRIVATE LIMITED

Tamil Nadu Industrial Housing Private Limited, invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from eligible Industrial Establishments for the optimal utilization of the facility and for taking full operational responsibility of the hostel at Tiruvannamalai District at Cheyyar Hostel facility with 441 beds.

Interested Industrial establishments are encouraged to submit their EOI on or before 16.03.2026 to be considered for upcoming opportunities.

DIPR/241/DIS/2026 **Managing Director, TNIHPL**

To submit an Expression of Interest and for further details regarding facilities log on to https://tnihpl.co.in/

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT CORPORATION (CHENNAI) LIMITED
PALLAVAN ILLAM, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI - 600 002.
TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited, tenders are invited for issuing licence for display of advertisement on the Exterior bus body below the Middle beading of the side body sheet and rear panel only, and Passenger seat back side and Existing Passenger Queens handle in MTC buses from the eligible tenderers who shall submit the documentary evidence as indicated below:

Sl. No.	Issue of Licence for	EMD Amount in Rs.	Eligibility Criteria
1.	Display of Advertisement on the Exterior bus body below the Middle beading of the side body and rear panel fitted with a thin sheet size (Approx 4 X 3 feet only) (except Small Bus, A/C Buses, New Low Floor Bus, renovated Blue & New BSVI Blue Bus,) in **1100 Buses.**	6,95,000	Registered establishment with at least Three year experience in the advertisement field
2.	Display of Advertisement on the Rear side of Passenger seats in **1000 buses** (in 5 equal lots) attached to various depots **(200 bus /per lot).**	EMD Rs.29,260/- Per lot Group I to V 200 Buses for each group	
3.	Display of Advertisement on existing Passenger Queens Handle in **560 buses** attached to various depots (New Low Floor Bus Only).	EMD Rs.1,54,000/-	

The Tender document and EMD details are available at Government e-procurement portal **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app.** Bidders are requested to upload their tender documents through the above portal only.
Tender submission start date : **27.02.2026 at 11.00 Hrs.**
Tender submission end date : **24.03.2026 upto 12.00 Hrs.**
Tender will be opened on : **24.03.2026 at 15.00 Hrs.**
Any modification (if any) in tender terms and tender invitation period will be uploaded in the website and the tenderers are requested to go through the above website periodically. MTC (Chennai) Ltd., reserves the right to accept / reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

DIPR/1430/TENDER/2026 **MANAGING DIRECTOR**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client intend to purchase the following properties presently bearing amalgamated BBMP Katha No.101/1/3, EPID No.1921560981, situated at **Binnamangala Manavartha Kaval**, 5th Cross, 2nd Stage, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, totally measuring 1500 Sq.feet. **Item No.I:** Site No.4, Old House List Katha No.101/1, NEW BMP Municipal No.3, measuring East to West 30 feet, North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.feet and bounded on the **East by :** Road; **West by :** Private Property; **North by :** House No.3 of Thomas; **South by :** House No.5 of Mathaias. **Item No.II:** Site No.34, House List Katha No.34, BMP Municipal No.3, measuring East to West (10+5)/2 feet and North to South 40 feet, totally measuring 300 Sq.feet, and bounded on the **East by :** House No.4; **West by :** Property No.34/1; **North by :** Private Property; **South by :** Portion of Same Property. From the Owner **Smt.N.B. HEMALATHA** Daughter of Sri. N.D. Bheemanna. Persons having any right over the said properties may lodge their objections/claims with documentary evidence within 15 days from the date of this publication, to the undersigned. **Prashanth Vijayalakshmi & Associates,** Advocates, No.162, 1st Floor, Above Venkateshwara Mobile Store, 2nd Main, Kasturinagar, Bangalore–560043. Ph: 080-42065536, Email – prashanthviji.adv@gmail.com

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
PROJECTS, CHEPAUK, CHENNAI - 5

FORM OF CONTRACT: LUMPSUM - ITEM RATE CONTRACT (Two Cover system)
Short Term - P.Q e-TENDER NOTICE NO. 126 CE/DO/2025-26/Dated : 20.02.2026

For and on behalf of The Governor of Tamilnadu, e- tenders are invited from the eligible PWD registered Civil contractors by the Chief Engineer, PWD, Projects, Chennai - 5, for the following works.

Sl No	Name of Work	Approximate Value of Work (including GST 18%) Rs in Lakhs	Amount of Earnest Money Deposit & period of completion	Eligible class of Contractor	EMD online mode remitted in favour of Executive Engineer,PWD, Technical Education Divisions
1	Construction of building including lab, classrooms, office hostel and other amenities including renovation of existing workshop in Government Industrial Training Institute at Ambathur in Thiruvallur District.	3025.00	1523000/- 18 months	Class I A	Chennai

1. For Tender documents, e-tendering and instructions visit Government website **http://tntenders.gov.in**
2. Last date and time for submission of tender documents : **04.03.2026 upto 3.00PM** (As per server system clock) Online only.
3. Date and Time of opening of e-tender : **05.03.2026 at 3.30PM** onwards (As per server system clock)
4. Digital signature is mandatory to participate in the tender. If any changes/Corrections in the tender will be published in the above web site only.

DIPR / 1437 /TENDER / 2026

Chief Engineer, PWD
Projects, Chepauk, Chennai - 5

From Page One

Govt. set to kick-start recruitment process

H.K. Patil

While the Finance Department has already provided approval for 24,300 posts, new notifications will come for 32,132 posts under 371 (J) of the Constitution.

Law and Parliament Affairs Minister H.K. Patil, who briefed the media, said that the notifications will spell out details on internal reservation within the 15% quota for Scheduled Castes instead of 17% with 6:6:5 ratio as approved by the State government. Though Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot earlier in the day had given assent to The Karnataka Scheduled Castes (Sub-Classification) Bill, 2025, which pegs SC reservation at 17% and allows internal quota, the Cabinet decided to stick to the original 15%.

When asked about the contradiction of the government sticking to 15% though assent was given for 17% quota, he Mr. Patil said, "Keeping in view the court judgment we will see how to go about internal reservation".

Asked if the government would hike reservation if the court verdict goes in favour of breaching the 50% ceiling, Mr. Patil said that adequate provisions will be made in the notificaiton to allow for this. The notification will have a clause that will allow for refitting the matrix to allow for additional 3% to SCs and 4% STs if the courts favour quota hike in the future, he said.

Earlier in the day, a delegation of seven Karnataka Ministers met the Governor demanding early assent to the Bill that provides legislation cover to internal reservation within the 17 % reservation for 101 Scheduled Castes in Karnataka. The government had given clarifications sought by the Governor regarding the quota break-up.

Mr. Patil said that two Bills – the Karnataka Rohith Vemula (Protection of SC/STs from Caste Discrimination in Higher Educational Institutions) Bill, 2025, and The Karnataka Freedom of Choice in Marriage and Prevention and Prohibition of Crimes in the Name of Honour and Tradition Bill, 2026, had been referred to the Home Department for its opinion.

The Cabinet also gave approval for the Cauvery VI Stage to supply water to satellite towns of Hoskote, Nelamangala, Devanahalli, and Vijayapura among other places at a cost of ₹6,939 crore.

PM sacrificed Indian farmers over U.S. trade deal: Rahul

Cong. leader says that permitting U.S. agricultural products into India would devastate marginal farmers; he lays foundation stone for construction of houses for Wayanad landslide victims

The Hindu Bureau
KOZHIKODE

Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Thursday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of destroying the foundation of the country by allegedly agreeing to open the agriculture sector to the United States and vowed that farmers would not be sacrificed for political or financial interests.

Addressing a farmers' convention in Kannur district of Kerala, Mr. Gandhi said, "Indian farmers form the foundation of the country, just as a building depends on its base."

Referring to reports of a trade understanding with the U.S. President Donald Trump, Mr. Gandhi alleged that permitting U.S. products such as soyabean, corn, and fruits into the Indian market would devastate small and marginal farmers in the country.

LoP Rahul Gandhi with Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra during the foundation stone laying ceremony at Kalpetta, Kerala. PTI

Mr. Gandhi claimed that legal proceedings involving the Adani Group in the U.S. had placed the Prime Minister under pressure. He alleged that these factors had led to decisions that compromised Indian farmers' interests.

Constructing 60 houses

Meanwhile, Mr. Gandhi laid the foundation stone for houses to be built by the Congress for the survivors of the Mundakkai-Chooralmala landslides at Meppadi in Wayanad district. The party is constructing 60 houses.

Addressing a public event, Mr. Gandhi said, "You have lost a lot, but you have not lost your spirit. You never lost your courage. Most importantly, you did not lose your compassion."

Mr. Gandhi said his sister, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Wayanad MP, had pointed out alleged delays in the construction. "There were complexities related to permissions, land and other issues. Now, I hope it will be completed soon," he said.

HC considers appeal against order stalling release of *The Kerala Story 2*

Press Trust of India
KOCHI

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Thursday considered an appeal against its single judge order putting on hold for 15 days the release of *The Kerala Story 2 - Goes Beyond* film.

In a late evening hearing, a Bench of Justices Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari and P.V. Balakrishnan observed that the pleas opposing the film's certification were in the nature of a public interest litigation and questioned how a single judge could hear it.

The producers of the film moved an appeal hours after a judge stayed the release.

Hours after the single judge stayed the film's release, the producers moved an appeal and the hearing by the Division Bench began from 8 p.m.

Producers' appeal

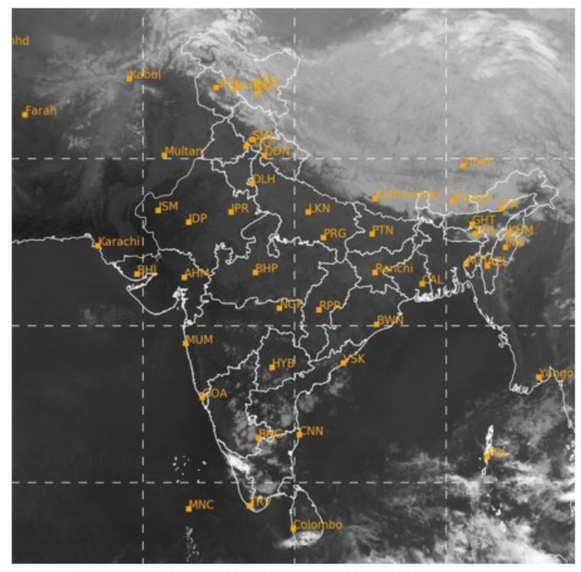
The producers claimed that the film does not harm or denigrate the state of Kerala or any religious community.

Appearing for the producers, senior advocate Neeraj Kishan Kaul told the court that even the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) found that there was nothing in the film which denigrates the State. "The film only portrays a social evil," Mr. Kaul said.

The earlier order had observed that the content of the film's teaser has "potential to distort public perception and disturb communal harmony."

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning/ gusty winds likely at isolated places over Sikkim, Sub Himalayan West Bengal, Kerala and Mahe. Dense fog likely at isolated places over Punjab

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	1	30.4	19.2	Kozhikode	0.1	34.4	25.2
Ahmedabad	—	34.7	21.6	Kurnool	—	35.3	21.7
Aizawl	—	26.4	16.0	Lucknow	—	30.4	14.4
Allahabad	—	31.2	12.5	Madurai	—	37.0	23.2
Bengaluru	—	31.5	21.0	Mangaluru	—	32.3	22.0
Bhopal	—	32.0	15.0	Mumbai	—	30.7	19.5
Bhubaneswar	—	33.6	21.4	Mysuru	—	32.6	20.0
Chandigarh	—	27.7	14.0	New Delhi	—	30.2	12.6
Chennai	—	32.3	23.8	Patna	—	29.0	17.2
Coimbatore	—	34.2	22.0	Port Blair	7	30.4	24.4
Dehradun	—	27.0	13.6	Puducherry	—	31.1	23.5
Gangtok	0.8	16.1	9.0	Pune	—	35.5	18.4
Goa	—	34.0	21.0	Raipur	—	33.6	18.4
Guwahati	—	30.8	16.2	Ranchi	—	27.2	13.0
Hubballi	—	33.0	18.0	Shillong	19	18.1	7.8
Hyderabad	—	33.3	20.4	Shimla	—	20.2	9.6
Imphal	—	26.1	11.4	Srinagar	—	20.2	2.2
Jaipur	—	31.8	17.2	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.9	24.1
Kochi	2	31.8	24.8	Tiruchi	—	35.1	24.6
Kohima	—	20.0	10.1	Vijayawada	—	34.6	22.0
Kolkata	—	30.6	18.4	Visakhapatnam	—	30.9	24.3

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.83	..75	38	... 115	...184	
Bengaluru	...5	..71	45	 74	...111	
Chennai	...4	8	48	 65	...101	
Delhi	.21	..86	87	... 228	...299	
Hyderabad	...9	8	32	 83	...103	
Kolkata	.10	121	33	... 209	...150	
Lucknow	...9	..36	61	... 159	...145	
Mumbai	.86	..76	.—	 45	55	
Pune	..—	..96	67	 85	...103	
Visakhapatnam	.21	..83	20	 97	...202	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Charkhi Dadri, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 292 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 29

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Department of Health & Family Welfare
KARNATAKA STATE AIDS PREVENTION SOCIETY
Arogya Soudha, 4th Floor, 1st Cross, Magadi Road, Bangalore - 560 023.
Tel.: 080-2955 7021, e-mail : pdksaps@gmail.com
No: KSAPS/PRC/06/2025-26 Date:26.02.2026
Invitation for Short term Tender- Call 2
(Through KPP Portal Only) (Two Cover System)
Short term Tender (Two Cover) (Call-2) are invited for supply of ARV drug Abacavir 300 mg IP Tablets (Single Pill) and Tab. Lamavudine 100 mg. under E-Procurement System. Details are available at e-procurement website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Last date for submission of tender on **13.03.2026 at 5:30pm.**
Sd/- Project Director
Karnataka State Aids Prevention Society.
DIPR/CP/JA/5881/2025-26

UT OF LAKSHADWEEP
LAKSHADWEEP DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED
(A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Ph: 04842323448/458 E-mail: amindivi@asianetindia.com
F.No: LDCL/Vessel Tracking/2025 Dt : 11.02.2026
RE-TENDER NOTICE
E-tenders are invited from eligible and experienced Technology Solution Providers for satellite-based vessel tracking and dashboard services for live tracking of 21 vessels of UTLA operated by Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd. (LDCL).
Tender Ref. No.: LDCL/VesselTracking/2026
Last Date & Time: 04.03.2026 at 11:30 AM
Detailed tender documents are available at **https://tendersutl.gov.in**
For any assistance related to e-tendering, please contact the Help Desk at **0120-4001002, 0120-4001005, 0120-6277787.**
Sd/- MD (LDCL)

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE
INVITATION OF APPLICATIONS
ESTABLISHMENT OF OIL PALM FACTORIES IN TELANGANA
CORRIGENDUM
With reference to the Notification, Dt:26.02.2026, regarding Invitation of Applications for Establishment of Oil palm Factories in Telangana, please note that the date 17.03.2026 may be read as 26.02.2026. All other conditions remain unchanged.
Sd/-Director of Horticulture,
Telangana State
DIPR R.O.No.1222-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2025-26 Dt:26.02.2026

ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED
VIDYUT SOUDHA, VIJAYAWADA-520004
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS (NIT) / RFx No.610002230
APGENCO invites Online tenders for "APGENCO-NSTPHES (2X25MW) - Providing of Man Power assistance in Operation and Maintenance of units and regular maintenance works in various sub divisions of O&M and Civil Divisions at Nagarjuna Sagar Tail Pond HES (2X25 MW) for two years period i.e **from 01.04.2026** (or) from the actual date of commencement of work **to 31.03.2028**" through APGENCO e-procurement platform. Please visit **https://etender.apgenco.gov.in/irj/portal** for tender details, procedure for registration and tender submission etc. Estimate Contract Value of the above work is **Rs.4,97,98,680/-.** Tender Schedules are available online **from 25.02.2026 at 6.00 PM onwards.** Bid Submission closing date: **3:00 PM on 10.03.2026.** Pre-qualification/Technical Bids will be opened **on 10.03.2026 at 4:00 PM.** Price Bids will be opened **on 13.03.2026 at 11:00 AM.** Tender notice can also be seen at **www.apgenco.gov.in. Phone: (0866) 2526411, 2526839.**
DIPR 4867PP/CL, Dt: 26/02/2026

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ, ತಾ: ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ (ಉ.ಕ)–581334
Email ID: honnavarhospital@gmail.com
ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ತಾ.ಆ.ಹೊ/ಗ್ರೂಪ್–ಡಿ/493/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25–02–2026
ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ, (ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ: ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ) ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಬಾಹ್ಯ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ (ಮ್ಯಾನ್ ಪವರ್ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಗ್ರೂಪ್–ಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ನಾನ್ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕಲ್ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ.
ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಹೆಸರು: ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ, ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 24, ಒಟ್ಟೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ: 69,42,605.76/–, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ಶೇ.2 ರಷ್ಟು) 1,38,852.11/– ಟೆಂಡರ್ ವೇಳಾ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ವಿವರ: (1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25–02–2026 (2) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25–02–2026 (3) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ: 11–03–2026 ರ ಸಂಜೆ 05–30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ (4) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ಸಮಯ: 13–03–2026 ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ 11–00 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ (5) ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಲಕೋಟೆಯನ್ನು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಂಗೀಕಾರ ಸಮಿತಿಯ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯ ನಂತರ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಮೇಲಿನ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಂದು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ರಜೆಯೆಂದು ಘೋಷಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು
ಅರ್ಹ ಟೆಂಡರದಾರರಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಯನ್ವಯ ಖಾಲಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಅಗತ್ಯತೆಯನುಸಾರ, ಅನುದಾನ ಲಭ್ಯತೆಯನುಸಾರ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಭರ್ತಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಸಹಿ/– ಆಡಳಿತ ವೈದ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು
ತಾಲೂಕಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಹೊನ್ನಾವರ
DIPR/KWR/KSMCA/1154/25-26 dt:26.02.2026

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560009.
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)
Notification No: KHB/2025-26/SE0351 Dated: 21.02.2026
Karnataka Housing Board has invited tender through KPP Portal for Structural Consultant for Construction of International Cricket Stadium and Sports Complex at Suryanagara 4th Phase, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru.
Last date for submission of bid is on 07.03.2026 upto 4.00 PM
For further information, contact below mentioned office address: Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bengaluru. Telephone No: 080-22273511, Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru
DIPR/CP/5879/AKAR/2025-26

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER
TALUKA PANCHAYAT SAVANUR
Phone No : 9480868125 E-mail : apodeotsvn@gmail.com
No. TPS/UG/MS/ E-Tender/01/2025-26 Date : 25-02-2026
Publication of Re-Tender
Tender has been invited under the double envelope submission system in the e-procurement of the Government of Karnataka from eligible suppliers as per the tender schedule for the supply of materials to schools, Anganwadi centers, Health centers, Hostels and Libraries under Untied grant of the Taluka Panchayat Savanur for the year 2025-26.
(1) E-Tender Number: RDPR/2025-26/IND13278/Call-2 Dated : 25-02-2026 (2) Estimated tender amount Rs. **115.00** lakhs (3) E.M.D amount Rs. As per e-portal. (4) Tender documents can be downloaded from e-Procurement and tenders can be submitted till : **05-03-2026** at 4.00 PM. (5) Date of opening of technical bid of tender on e-procurement portal : **07-03-2026** (6) Date of opening of financial bid of tender on e-Procurement Portal : **09-03-2026**
The details of the materials/supplier qualification/ tender terms/tender processing fee etc. can be obtained through the website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or by contacting the office of the under signed.
Sd/- Executive Officer,
Taluka Panchayat Savanur
DIPR/HVR/KSMCA/747/2025-26

DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY & VETERINARY SERVICES
Office of the Commissioner, Pashupaalana Bhavana
1st Floor, Opp. to CBI Office, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bengaluru - 560 024
E-mail: commissionerahvs@gmail.com | **Phone :** 080-23414988
No.: CAH/AD(LH)/VIVA-47/2025-26 **Date:** 26.02.2026
Tender Notification (KPP Portal mode Only)
The Commissioner of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore hereby invites bids through KPP Portal for the procurement and supply of Deworming Drugs under the ASCAD scheme for the year 2025-26 for a period of one year. The amount fixed for the tender is **Rs. 68.82 lakhs.**
Complete tender documents can be viewed by visiting website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from **Date: 26.02.2026** and tenderers can upload all the necessary documents through KPP portal from **Date: 26.02.2026 to Date: 12.03.2026 till 17.30 hours.**
Further information can be obtained from KPP Portal and this office during office hours.
Sd/-
Depputy Director (ADSS)
DIPR/CP/5886/SA/2025-26

University Of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore
NAAC A' Accredited, Estate Office, Naik Bhavan, GKVK, Bengaluru-560 065.
No. EO/SPO/kppp/18/2025-26 Dated: 24-02-2026
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kpp Portal only)
The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore has invited Tender in the prescribed form as per Standard Tender Document KG-2, from the reputed firms for the procurement of Agricultural Equipment's/Implements.
The Blank Tender Documents can be downloaded from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. (1)** Last date and time for uploading the tender on **07.03.2026 upto 4:00 p.m. (2)** The Technical Bid will be opened on **09.03.2026 at 10:30 a.m. (3)** The Financial Bid will be opened on **12.03.2026 at 10:30 a.m.** in the Tender Committee Room of Estate Office. Further details can be had from the office of the undersigned during working hours and also refer UAS **website: www.usabangalore.edu.in. Help Desk-91-8046010000, + 91-8068948777, support@eprochelpdesk. com.** The University reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons.
Sd/-
ESTATE OFFICER
DIPR/CP/RO5884/AAPL/2025-26

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, BANGALORE
Estate Office, GKVK campus, Bangalore-560065
No. EO/TN/25/2025-26 DATED: 19.02.2026
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement portal only)
The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore has invited Tender in the prescribed from as per Standard Tender Document KW1 & KW3 from the registered KPWD/PWD/Contractors for the works Sl. No.1 to 5. The details of the notification, tender document, specifications are available in the website **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The cost of tender document is as per e-procurement portal. The EMD has to be paid in the e-procurement portal using e-Procurement payment modes.
The works are under Two Cover system. The details for two cover system is to be uploaded as per Standard Tender Document.
The Blank Tender Documents can be down loaded from **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Last date and time for uploading is **03-03-2026 upto 4.00 P.M.** The Technical Bid will be opened on **05-03-2026 at 10.30 A.M.** The Financial Bid will be opened on **09-03-2026 at 10.30 A.M.** For more details please contact e-portal help desk at support@eprochelpdesk.com or 8046010000/ 8068948777 on working days and this office during working hour, Phone No.080-23332765.
Sd/-
Estate Officer
DIPR/CP/5876/NR/2025-26

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer, Hemavathy Dam Division, Gorur Hassan District.
Short Term Tender Notification No:11/2025-26
Date: 23.02.2026
The Executive Engineer, CNNL.,Hemavathy Dam Division, Gorur-573120 Hassan Taluk Hassan Dist., As Per KW-4, invited Item rate Short term tender (Two covers) through K.P.P.Portal only vide No.11/2025-26, Date:23.02.2026 on behalf of the Managing Director, CNNL, Bangalore from the eligible contractors of KPWD Class-II and above of any State /Central Government /Public Sector organization. Details-2work, and KPWD Class-III and above of any State/Central Government / Public Sector organization. Details-2work approximate Maximun amount Rs.417.61Lakhs and minimum Rs.105.19Lakhs EMD as Prescribed in K.P.P.Portal, The contractor can have access e-tender documents from 25.02.2026 to 06.03.2026 through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on payment (Non Refundable) of transaction fees as fixed by K.P.P.Portal (2)Opening of Technical bid (Cover-I) 07.03.2026 at 05.00 PM onwards. (if possible) (3)Cover-II (Financial bid) will be opened after approval of Technical bid from the competent authority. For further information etc., contact in the undersigned office during working hours or through website https://kppp.karnataka.gov. (Department).
Sd/- Executive Engineer, CNNL,
Hemavathy Dam Division, Gorur.
ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಇ/ಹಿಸನಿ/ಹಾಸನ/1118/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

V.O. CHIDAMBARANAR PORT AUTHORITY
CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
TUTICORIN – 628 004
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

#	Name of the work	Estimated cost Put to tender value (Amount in INR)	Cost of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (Amount in INR)	Online Tender opening date
1	Providing and Laying Rigid Pavement in the Back up Area in between 7th Berth Approach Road & 8th Berth Approach Road and Resurfacing the 7th Berth Approach Road inside Green Gate at VOCPA.	24,14,15,609.57/-	48,28,320/-	17.03.2026
2	Development of Green Belt at VOC Port Estate-Plantation of 2000 trees and maintenance for Period of One Year at Various Locations in VOCPA	53,67,662/-	1,07,354/-	12.03.2026

Note:
For eligible tenderers, downloading of bid documents from the NIC e-tendering website:
i) **https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app**
ii) **https://www.vocport.gov.in**
Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER
VOCPA

Taking sides

India's relations with Israel should not be at the cost of ties with the Arab world

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 24-hour visit to Jerusalem was a significant bilateral outreach to Israel, but a missed opportunity on Palestine, with complex consequences for India's ties with West Asia. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had announced the visit in December and confirmed the dates on Sunday, indicating Israel's keen interest in hosting Mr. Modi. From Mr. Modi's landing, to every engagement up to his departure, Mr. Netanyahu personally escorted Mr. Modi everywhere. After bilateral talks on Thursday, the two leaders agreed to upgrade ties to a "Special Strategic Partnership", and signed a critical technologies partnership among more than 15 MoUs in AI, agriculture, culture and education. They also agreed to facilitate the employment of 50,000 Indian workers in Israel over the next five years. The engagement, and Mr. Netanyahu's deep praise for Mr. Modi and the India relationship was even more intense than during Mr. Modi's 2017 visit. This possibly accrues from the timing of the visit, as Israel faces growing isolation over high casualties in Gaza and Mr. Netanyahu's West Bank settlement plans. In the past week, Israel's West Bank proposals have been condemned by dozens of countries, which includes Germany, France, and the U.K. that have been measured so far. Mr. Netanyahu heads into an election later this year, which will be seen as a referendum on his record, in terms of alleged corruption in his government as well as for accountability for security lapses in 2023 and the civilian toll of Israel's response. Mr. Modi's visit would bolster him politically. In his speech at the Knesset, Mr. Modi referred only obliquely to Palestinian sovereignty, saying that the U.S.-led Gaza Peace Initiative, which commits to a two-state solution, "holds the promise of a just and durable peace... including by addressing the Palestine Issue". The Prime Minister said that India shared the pain and grief of every life lost in the October 2023 terror attack by Hamas but made no mention of the high toll – more than 72,000 killed – in the strikes on Gaza by Israel since then.

It is hoped that Mr. Modi will clarify India's position on the conflict, as he did after his last visit, by following it up with a visit to Palestine. His decision to travel amidst the threat of U.S. attacks on Iran carried the possible risk of taking sides in the event of a conflict. Beyond the bilateral, the outcomes of his visit will be judged globally by its impact on the larger West Asian neighbourhood. First, his announcement that India-Israel-UAE and India-Israel-UAE-U.S. "I2U2" would develop new momentum, as would the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), indicates New Delhi believes that regional initiatives are still viable despite the polarised atmosphere and recent deep fault-lines. Second, a decision to "stand with Israel, firmly... " could come at the cost of India's relations with other West Asian powers, which expect India to remain steadfast to its historically calibrated regional balance, and to principles of peace, morality and compassion in the Israel-Palestine conflict.

A brittle shell

ISRO should choose transparency to reinforce public confidence

A venerable institution, facing accusations of opacity, decided to stun its detractors with some transparency. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) made public the report of a technical committee, constituted to analyse why the NVS-02 satellite, which was launched aboard a GSLV rocket on January 29, 2025, could not be placed in its intended orbit. Until this week, there was no official explanation why this had happened. An accompanying press statement – not a report it must be noted – surmised that an 'apex' committee had concluded that a signal meant to activate a key valve in the engine's oxidiser line never reached it. This valve is crucial for firing the engine to raise the spacecraft's orbit and this likely happened because at least one connection in the electrical connector – in both the primary and backup lines – came loose or failed, preventing the signal from getting through. All of this is useful information, but only for ISRO to be cautious in future missions. In fact, the press statement continued, these learnings were "successfully implemented" in a November 2, 2025 mission by the LVM-3 M5 launch vehicle that placed the GSAT-7R, India's heaviest communication satellite, in its intended orbit. When the ISRO releases a statement on an event from a year ago, it must strive to illuminate rather than be seen to declassify under duress. It should have revealed whether the connection came loose because of an oversight; whether multiple levels of personnel – or machines – who scrutinise every nut and screw on the assembly line failed, or if a manufacturing anomaly had compounded over time in a way that would have escaped detection even by the most vigilant overseers.

At the other end, doing so reinforces public confidence in the institution. It should be able to reveal such information without blaming individuals or withholding proprietary or strategic information. Making such 'Failure Analysis' reports public, as they are called, used to be a routine affair. However, ISRO seems to have retreated into a shell following the back-to-back failures of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicles in January and in May 2025. In fact, beyond the technical committees– another committee has been set up to probe "systemic issues" underlying the failures of these rockets – ISRO should not choose insularity at a time when traditional business models all over the world are being disrupted.

Analysing India's cycle of deprivation and affluence

Nidhi Kaicker
is Associate Professor, B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi

Vani S. Kulkarni
is Research Affiliate, Population Studies Centre, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

Raghav Gaiha
is Visiting Scholar, Population Aging Research Centre, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

"It was the best of times; it was the worst of times", wrote Charles Dickens in *A Tale of Two Cities*. This sums up the state of affairs in India in the past decade or so. Of particular interest here is the income mobility of different segments of the population which reveals sharp upward and downward shifts between 2014 and 2025. Those experiencing downward mobility among the poor suffer humiliation, hunger, morbidity, infant and child mortality, while the affluent experiencing upward mobility flaunt their wealth in ostentatious living, speculative investments in real estate, business ventures, and high risk gambling. So, movements into and out of deprivation and affluence are of considerable interest. All these changes are likely to influence income distribution that cannot be captured through poverty and income inequality measures. Instead, we demonstrate below that analysis of income mobility during the period 2014-25 yields richer insights into income distributional outcomes. The overall picture has shades of grey but it is not counterintuitive.

The state of households

Households are grouped each year into three income categories based on their 2014 per capita income rank: the top 10%, the next 40%, and the bottom 50%. Income mobility is defined as movement across these groups relative to a household's 2014 position – downward (to a lower group), no change (same group), or upward (to a higher group).

To assess whether elections mattered, the period 2014-2025 is divided into two sub-periods, 2014-19 and 2019-24, each anchored around a national election year. Our analysis draws on real (inflation-adjusted) per capita income data from the Consumer Pyramids Household Survey conducted by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy, spanning 2014-2025. We construct a balanced panel of households that are consistently observed across these years.

At the all-India level, the share of households experiencing downward mobility nearly doubles – from 14% in 2015 to 26.8% in 2025 – while the proportion remaining in the same income group falls sharply from over 70% to below half. Upward mobility does increase over time, rising from 14.1% to 23.5%, but this improvement is gradual and consistently trails the rise in downward movement. What stands out is not just mobility, but its direction: the balance tilts increasingly towards decline rather than ascent. By 2025, more than one in four households are worse-off relative to their 2014 position. The data suggest an economy marked less by broad-based upward progress and more by growing vulnerability and uneven gains.

The rural trends are particularly sobering. By 2025, nearly 29% of rural households are worse-off than they were in 2014, while the share that remained in the same income group has fallen below half. Although some upward movement is visible, especially in the early years, it is consistently outpaced by the rise in households slipping down the income ladder. The sharpest deterioration occurs in the first subperiod (2014-19), but the vulnerability persists thereafter.

Urban India fares somewhat better, yet, the picture is hardly reassuring. Downward mobility rises here too, albeit more gradually than in rural areas, even as upward mobility improves at a faster pace than in the countryside.

The contrast suggests that whatever gains have materialised are more concentrated in urban centres, while rural households bear the brunt of economic volatility. Far from a story of broad-based inclusion, the evidence points to a widening experience of insecurity – one that sits uneasily with vociferous claims of steadily falling inequality.

Caste patterns

The caste-wise patterns are equally revealing – and troubling. Since 2014, downward mobility has risen across all social groups, with particularly sharp increases among Other Backward Classes (OBC) and Scheduled Caste (SC) households. By 2025, roughly a quarter or more of households in each of these groups are worse-off than they were in 2014. While upward mobility has improved for the Unreserved and OBCs, it remains muted and uneven for SCs across the entire period.

For SC households, the constraint appears less about dramatic descent and more about the persistent narrowing of pathways upward. The steepest rise in downward mobility occurs in the first subperiod (2014-19), even as upward mobility loses momentum in the years thereafter. This sits uneasily with repeated assertions by the ruling party and the Prime Minister about shrinking inequalities and expanding opportunity.

At the same time, there has been considerable social churn, with the ruling party broadening its base – particularly among OBCs and sections of upper castes in States such as Uttar Pradesh – reshaping traditional hierarchies of influence within the broader caste landscape. Our analysis echoes a longer history of caste-based deprivation in India – where occupational segmentation, unequal access to assets and education, and entrenched social discrimination continue to shape economic outcomes.

Scheduled Tribes display comparatively lower downward mobility and some episodes of stronger upward movement, possibly reflecting targeted interventions and regional development efforts. Yet, the broader message is unmistakable: caste remains a decisive fault line in income mobility, and the promise of equal economic ascent remains illusory.

Relative to 2014, downward mobility rises across all religious groups, with the rise being more pronounced among both Hindu and Muslim households over time. Upward mobility increases steadily for Sikh and Christian households, often outpacing downward movements in several years, while gains for Hindu and Muslim households are more gradual, indicating uneven mobility trajectories across religious groups by 2025. Among Hindus and Muslims, downward mobility spikes around election years, while upward mobility rises more modestly. For Muslims in particular, the rise in upward mobility remains weaker than for Hindus. Again, discrimination against Muslims has restricted their upward mobility and not so much their downward mobility. Sikh and Christian households display stronger upward mobility in the earlier years, though this momentum weakens in the latter half of the decade.

The story is about entrenched inequality

While the headline numbers point to growing downward mobility, a more rigorous statistical analysis reinforces the same conclusion. After accounting for household characteristics, we find that higher income dispersion at the district level is systematically associated with greater downward mobility. In other words, households located in more unequal districts are more likely to slip down the income ladder than to climb up.

Inequality, far from spurring aspiration, appears to harden economic boundaries. The results also echo familiar social fault lines: households from historically disadvantaged caste groups and Muslims exhibit significantly lower mobility, while education, urban location and larger household size are associated with better prospects. The deeper story, then, is about entrenched inequality shaping who moves ahead – and who falls behind.

That 2019 marked a turning point is not surprising as the Bharatiya Janata Party secured a historic victory in the general election. But, soon after, the government had to deal with the catastrophic COVID-19 pandemic that caused massive humanitarian and economic crises. Their inept handling means that the disruption persisted long after the pandemic ceased.

Reckless pursuit of Hindutva without a coherent strategy to revive the informal sector including agriculture, lower increase in upward income mobility while resilience among certain segments – including OBCs and SCs as well as Muslims – helped slow their descent into deprivation. So, perhaps resilience in the face of adversity matters too.

The larger concern is that an economy in which more households are slipping down than climbing up cannot sustain social stability for long. When inequality hardens into reduced mobility, frustration replaces aspiration. Therefore, policy must move beyond headline growth and focus on strengthening public health, education, employment-intensive sectors, and social protection. Policies addressing discrimination are not matters of welfare alone – they are central to restoring mobility and renewing faith in economic progress.

Analysis of income mobility during 2014-25 shows sharp upward and downward shifts, with implications for social stability

The shift of critical minerals to India's strategic centre

Rishabh Jain
is Fellow at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)

Three years ago, and at the start of India's G-20 presidency, critical minerals barely featured as a strategic topic in policy thinking. As recently as August 2023, several critical minerals, including lithium, were still classified as atomic minerals, effectively barring private exploration and mining. But the latest Union Budget shows that something critical has shifted in India's thinking.

The government has now signalled that critical minerals have moved to the mainstream, and must become a core pillar of India's industrial, energy, and geopolitical strategy. The emphasis on 'critical minerals' in the Budget speech is revealing. The focus is no longer on whether India needs a critical minerals policy but on whether India can now execute while building expertise at scale, speed and depth.

Clear policy drive

There is clear policy momentum. India now has a list of 30 critical minerals and has eased mineral exploration for junior miners while also rationalising the royalty rates. In January 2025, the government launched the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) with a budgetary outlay of ₹16,300 crore. Today, India is among a small group of countries with a comprehensive and ambitious policy framework for critical minerals.

Yet, ambition alone will not deliver mineral security. Execution will. It takes years – often decades – to discover and mine minerals, but extraction is not the only bottleneck. China controls up to 90% of global mineral processing capacity for several critical minerals. However, analysis by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) suggests that India already has the capabilities to process a few minerals to high purity levels.

For instance, Indian industries already produce high-purity copper, graphite, rare earth oxides, tin and titanium – often exceeding 99.9% purity. However, existing production is largely geared towards conventional uses and limited volumes. Meeting the requirements of clean tech and defence will require further technological upgrading, deeper refining, and capacity expansion. Skills from established sectors such as chemicals, pharmaceuticals and textiles could be leveraged to process raw minerals to higher purity and scale.

The Union Budget has highlighted India's new 'mineral resolve'

Priority areas

In this context, Budget 2026 begins the harder work of implementation. To sustain this momentum, India must double down on three priorities: First, create demand avenues for processed minerals. The Budget rightly removes import duties on capital goods used in the processing of critical minerals. Given high capex requirements, this improves the competitiveness of upcoming refineries. However, the biggest constraint investors face is not just cost but also the lack of assured domestic demand for processed minerals. While government initiatives support domestic manufacturing of batteries, solar modules, wind turbines, and electric vehicles, delays in backward integration continue to create uncertainty for midstream processors. Boosting the deployment of locally-made electric vehicles, batteries, solar, and wind would have powerful third-order effects, strengthening processing, mining, and exploration ecosystems. Demand creation remains the most decisive industrial policy lever.

Second, adopt an Artificial Intelligence (AI) -first approach to mineral exploration. The NCMM targets 1,200 exploration projects by FY2031. The Budget strengthens project viability by making exploration expenditure for nine critical minerals eligible for tax deductions. Interestingly, four of these minerals (beryllium, tantalum, lithium and niobium) were on the restricted atomic minerals list just three years ago. To truly de-risk exploration, leveraging technology will be critical. India should mandate an AI-first approach to mineral exploration, backed by coherence across the IndiaAI Mission, the National Geospatial Policy, and Mission Anveshan. Today, Mission Anveshan focuses on hydrocarbon discovery using seismic AI tools. Extending such capabilities to the National Geoscience Data Repository could significantly improve prospectivity analysis and aid new site discoveries.

Third, leverage geopolitical disruption to build technological sovereignty. In 2025, the weaponisation of rare earth magnets and battery supply chains exposed the fragility of global industrial and clean energy policies. The government's response – announcing rare earth corridors across coastal States and reducing import duties on monazite sands – is timely. States should now leverage existing infrastructure and manpower to serve global demand, creating jobs and boosting regional growth.

International partnerships are key

But beyond local action, India should accelerate institutional and industrial partnerships with Australia, the European countries, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States. Many of them possess advanced minerals processing or complex component manufacturing capabilities but remain cautious about technology transfer. These firms should be nudged and encouraged to set up their facilities in India to service global markets. While the ₹7,280 crore scheme for sintered rare earth permanent magnets is a start, regulatory certainty, water-tight legal frameworks, market access and research collaboration will be equally important. Strengthening links between centres of excellence in India to their global counterparts – such as through the UK-India Critical Minerals Supply Chain Observatory – should be prioritised, including under the recently concluded India-European Union Free Trade Agreement.

In a turbulent world, 2026 can be a year of accelerated ambition if approached with speed, confidence and caution. India's leadership in critical minerals hinges on coordinated action supported by inter-ministerial coordination, proactive state leadership, and global partnerships.

The views expressed are personal

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

R. Nallakannu

The passing of comrade R. Nallakannu, the veteran Communist leader, at the ripe old age of 101 in Chennai, is a great loss. I have had the opportunity to meet him on a couple of occasions, and was deeply moved each time by his extraordinary simplicity and sacrifice. He dedicated his entire life to the freedom of this country and to the peasantry and the downtrodden. It is needless to say that it is difficult to find leaders like him. It is my firm belief that honouring him with the Bharat Ratna would not only recognise his immense contributions to society but also reaffirm the values of simplicity, sacrifice, and service that he embodies.

N.G.R. Prasad,
Chennai

His final wish was not for stone or symbolism, but service. By donating his body to the MMC to advance medical education, he chose purpose over prominence. A legacy is built not in marble, but in meaningful contribution.

A.P. Thiruvadi,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Have AI products/LLMs started to disrupt the software services industry?

Alagunambi Welkin

General Secretary of the Union of IT and ITeS Employees, which represents technology sector workers across India

Kishan Sundar

Chief Technology Officer at Maveric Systems, where he leads digital engineering and AI-led transformation initiatives across banking and financial services clients

PARLEY

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has moved from experimentation to enterprise adoption in under two years, with industry estimates projecting AI services revenues of $10 billion-$12 billion in FY26. Yet, this moment of expansion coincides with layoffs, automation, and the vulnerability of entry-level roles in India's Information Technology (IT) and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sectors. It also coincides with India's top tech firms integrating AI products into their workflows. Have AI products/LLMs started to disrupt the software services industry? Kishan Sundar and Alaganambi Welkin discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Kunal Shankar.** Edited excerpts:

Are the rapid advances in AI disrupting India's IT services sector, or are we witnessing a transformation?

Alagunambi Welkin: Based on discussions with union members across companies and levels, what we think is happening now is AI washing. The retrenchments or restructuring happening in companies are not primarily due to AI, but in the name of AI.

At the same time, transformation is happening. Every developer and key engineer in IT services companies is adapting to AI tools that assist their day-to-day life. There is a wide shift happening across the industry in how we work, and that transformation is positive.

But the claims that AI is going to take over massive jobs, that no more developers are needed, and that entire end-to-end development can be done by AI... we think that is far-fetched. So, what we see is cost cutting, typically done by major multinational corporations, now being termed AI-based cost cutting.

Kishan Sundar: AI is not replacing the industry; it is transforming it. In the last three decades, the industry has operated on labour arbitrage. Growth came from adding people. That was its strength – well-managed processes and predictable delivery. Now we are moving towards intelligence arbitrage. GenAI enables growth without a matching increase in staff.

From COBOL days, when you had to remember syntax and semantics, to IntelliSense improving productivity, to AI assistance that completes methods and refactors – today, by giving a prompt, you get well-structured code. But is that code production-ready? You need a different skill set to assess whether it is good enough, whether it needs refactoring, whether the right pattern is adopted.

The same shift is happening for product managers. Writing user stories and acceptance criteria, which used to take hours and required concurrence from developers and testers, can now be done much faster. Testers are becoming efficient. DevOps engineers are becoming efficient. In essence, a squad of eight to 10 members can become three to five.

GETTY IMAGES

But does that mean roles are shrinking and layoffs are inevitable? No. AI applications are not deploy-and-forget. There is drift and fine-tuning. Traditional AMS (application management services) now need to adopt differently. Additional roles are getting created.

Net-net, revenue per engineer is increasing. The number of people needed per engagement may reduce, but the range of roles is expanding.

Are entry-level roles, especially in BPO and KPO (knowledge process outsourcing), more vulnerable?

AW: When we speak about the IT industry in India, there are two major classifications. One is IT services companies that build, maintain, and enhance software. The other is BPO and KPO jobs, which are repetitive and well-defined.

Because of the scale, we increase head count and deliver through documentation or calls. Those kinds of jobs are definitely vulnerable now. With agentic AI developments, companies are saying they can automate end-to-end processes. A call centre with 4,000-5,000 staff does not need all of them for every process. Handling validation and retraining in response to deviations may require just 10-15 people.

On the other side, in IT services companies, AI is assisting the end-to-end software development cycle and drastically reducing the number of hours required to complete a task.

But development is not just coding. Engineers interact with multiple teams – within the client organisation, across geographies, and with counterpart teams in the U.S. or the U.K. There are interdependencies, internal politics, differing agendas, and competition. Even if

> Based on discussions with union members across companies and levels, what we think is happening now is AI washing. The retrenchments or restructuring happening in companies are not primarily due to AI, but in the name of AI.
> **ALAGUNAMBI WELKIN**

software can be built in two or three hours, it still requires requirements from one team and data from another. And when someone feels vulnerable, they may not communicate those requirements clearly. So, a part of the job is getting easier because of AI tools, but that alone is not enough to replace humans entirely. At the same time, if the hours required to build software drop significantly, there may be a case for reducing overall working hours.

Are global AI partnerships defensive moves, or growth strategies?

KS: They are definitely growth strategies. We should not fall into the trap of vibe coding. In regulated environments such as banking and financial services, every line written must have audit and traceability – why it was written and for what purpose. We are adopting the same Software Development Life Cycle but embedding AI in every aspect. LLMs generate code. We build wrappers and context layers so that every line generated against a prompt is repeatable and consistent across developers. That ensures maintainability.

Gone are the days of the 10x developer. Now context engineering is the essence. The engineer who knows the domain and context becomes critical rather than someone who codes fast.

Most LLMs are horizontal. Where we come in is bringing domain context – retail banking, wealth management, corporate banking – and embedding regulatory aspects into the lifecycle.

Beyond services, we are developing proprietary frameworks and product engineering capabilities.

Is India largely consuming AI built elsewhere?

AW: The MNCs leading LLMs and AI transformations own the IP and build foundational models with enormous capital and infrastructure. Indian IT companies collaborate with them, use their services, rebrand them, or build on top of them. Compared to the U.S. or China, we invest insufficiently in education, research, compute capacity, and data infrastructure, so we are not building foundational models that can compete globally. Reskilling is happening mainly on the consumer side – prompt engineering, context engineering, and agent building.

KS: It is not completely black and white. India has strengths in systems engineering, enterprise integration, scaling, execution, and process rigour. The strategic question is whether we prioritise sovereign LLMs or double down on AI services dominance. Both should happen, but prioritisation matters.

Is the services model shifting from manpower-driven billing to outcome-based pricing?

KS: We moved from the traditional pyramid model to a diamond structure and from time-and-material pricing to squad-based pricing. Now, we are moving further towards outcome-based or output-based pricing. Customers care about predictable delivery, quality, and clarity of cost upfront. With outcome-based pricing, what matters is predictable delivery and quality. That gives us the opportunity to grow faster while maintaining margins.

Has the time come to speak about a 'just transition' for the IT sector? What should companies and government do, and what protections are needed?

AW: That part is not being discussed enough. When transformation happens, unemployment increases. If a person suddenly gets laid off without information, his financial planning, family, and children's education are all affected. Employees in India pay huge taxes. Why don't we get unemployment benefits when we do not get jobs for six months or a year?

Skill India is not credit-based. You cannot formally certify your skills in India through it. Simply watching a video and claiming competence is not enough for the industry.

Algorithms are increasingly deciding work and life. There should be transparency and regulation. Otherwise, it will create difficult situations, including mental health concerns.

Data centres are going to increase because of AI and data protection needs. They create less employment but more climate impact – electricity consumption and water usage. That impact also needs to be discussed.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

At the AI Summit, learning to love and fear the era of agents

AI is already helping with some subtle shortcuts in journalism. What if that changes?

Aroon Deep

How does a reporter cover a massive international summit with simultaneous programming? That was my challenge when I entered the India AI Impact Summit at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi last week.

I first thought I had an infallible tech-enabled plan: I would use a snippet of code to fetch audio clips of YouTube livestreams of several panel discussions, transcribe them with a cloud-based voice recognition tool, review those transcripts later, and then file stories.

But that is not what happened. The organisers seem to have found it difficult to get an adequate number of video and livestream personnel to reliably take care of a dozen simultaneous livestreams. My technique ran into trouble at several discussions, where the stream started only after the panel was introduced. This made it challenging for me to "diarize" transcripts (add speaker names to each text) by cross-referencing the panellists listed on the summit website. The website itself kept changing without notice. And sometimes, much to my annoyance, someone would leave a live mic on a production counter, severely compromising my automated transcription.

Thankfully, other reporting assignments kept me busy – daily briefings, interviews with different players in the AI ecosystem, and high-profile controversies, including the haphazard security arrangements that caused speakers to miss their own sessions and Galgotias University's Chinese robodog.

As I ran around taking notes, I kept thinking, 'there has got to be an easier way to do this'. And there indeed was, for many tasks. I felt guilty whenever I was not trying to find those easier ways. That feeling came from having just downloaded Claude, a coding-focused AI app that could help make my work much simpler.

With no coding experience, I built three tools likely to save me time on grunt work. The first is an Android app to continuously fetch notifications from the Gazette of India, which has a tendency to drop, with little warning, major policy updates through the week. The second is a process to update my personal website. While it earlier took me half an hour every three months to do this, it now takes just a minute. The third was a small browser extension to automate the many steps required to submit a drafted story.

I was – and still am – excited and scared. Excited because I can be free of some of the drudgery that is incidental to my work. Fear because these are capabilities that theoretically everyone has now. And with time, these may not be just cool hacks, but a core part of the capabilities we are expected to exercise. How can someone who grew up in a pre-AI internet era compete with someone who tries all they can to get more done?

To be sure, the craft of journalism is not as exposed to AI-led displacement as, say, programming. The profession demands that a journalist earn the trust of experts – and convince them to share what they know as well. The LLM frenzy is, however, likely to diffuse in unsettling ways. What happens to journalists starting out without these tools when their competition is using agents to compose and send individualised emails seeking information? What happens if the AI natives supercharge their productivity and compound their skills faster than someone who still does things as they have been for the last decade?

For now, there is likely a ceiling: complex workflows involving autonomous agents – as opposed to mere productivity hacks – require tokens for LLM inference, which are expensive. Even with a paid Claude subscription, I hit usage limits using its most advanced model to build the three tools above. These costs offer some cushion. But as inference becomes cheaper, professionals will have to face the full possibilities of automation and the costs of failing to adapt.

aroon.deep@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A light moment at Pusa

Women farmers from Dausa district, Rajasthan, during their visit to the Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute grounds on the Pusa campus in New Delhi. The event was inaugurated by Union Agriculture and Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

FROM THE ARCHIVES — The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 27, 1976

Nuclear plant: Pak. refuses to give guarantees to Canada

Washington, Feb. 26: Pakistan has told Canada that it cannot permit the latter to have a say in how Pakistan operates a nuclear reprocessing plant it is buying from France. Canada, it seems, wants to be assured that Pakistan will not use the nuclear wastes produced by its Canadian supplied reactor in the French plant to make weapons-grade plutonium. After inconclusive discussions on the subject with Premier Trudeau of Canada, the Pakistan Prime Minister, Mr. Z.A. Bhutto, told a news conference in Ottawa: "We are prepared to consider adequate safeguards but we do not want to be tied body and soul to it. We cannot see Canada imposing safeguards on a reprocessing plant." Though Mr. Bhutto also said: "We are not interested in making explosions," Canada and the U.S. suspect that Pakistan's only motive in acquiring an expensive and unviable reprocessing plant from France is to make atomic bombs.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 27, 1926

League council controversy

London, Feb. 25: Frequent comings and goings at Foreign Office of European emissaries indicate the delicate state of the League Council issue. Sir Erie Drummond came to London to confer with the Cabinet who, in addition to negotiating with foreign diplomats, are continuously consulting British Dominions. Yesterday's cabinet meeting was devoted almost entirely to foreign affairs.

From Page One

SC bans Class 8 textbook, orders seizure of copies

The Solicitor-General said the people who worked on the textbook would never be assigned the task again by the Education Ministry. If he had his way, Mr. Mehta added, they would not be employed by any other Ministry either.

Initiating contempt action, the court issued a show cause notice to both the Secretary of the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, and the NCERT Director, Dinesh Prasad Saklani, whom the court said had "defended" the "offensive content" even when the Supreme Court Secretary General, on the instruction of Chief Justice Kant, had sought an explanation.

"They fired the gun and the judiciary is bleeding today," Chief Justice Kant said.

The court said that, *prima facie*, an examination of the book's contents and the response from the director, seemed like a calculated move to undermine the institutional authority and demean the dignity of the judiciary. The Bench said, in its order, that the publication "washed off with one stroke of the pen the illustrious history associated with the Supreme Court, the High Courts" and their substantive contributions towards the preservation of democratic values.

"The text fails to mention the imperative role of the judiciary in upholding constitutional morality and basic structure which is the lifeblood of the Indian citizenry. The narrative of the book chooses not to delve into any of the transformative measures or initiatives to overhaul even the legal aid and streamline the ease of access to justice mechanism," the Bench noted.

Senior members of the Bar, including senior advocates Kapil Sibal, A.M. Singhvi, and Supreme Court Bar Association president Vikas Singh, agreed that the content was "definitely deliberate".

India slams Pak. at UN, says it is 'living in la-la land'

Press Trust of India
UNITED NATIONS/GENEVA

India has hit back at Pakistan at the UN after Islamabad raised the issue of Jammu and Kashmir at the high-level segment of the 61st Regular Session of the UN Human Rights Council, saying that the country lives in "la-la land".

"India is compelled to exercise its Right of Reply in response to references made to it during the high-level segment by Pakistan and the OIC [Organisation of Islamic Cooperation]. We categorically reject these allegations," Anupama Singh, First Secretary in the Permanent Mission of India to the UN in Geneva, said on Wednesday.

"If the Chenab Rail Bridge, the world's highest bridge inaugurated in Jammu and Kashmir last year is fake, then Pakistan must be hallucinating or living in the la-la land," Ms. Singh said. "Or maybe, Pakistan finds it unbelievable that the developmental budget of Jammu and Kashmir is more than double the recent bailout package they sought from the IMF," she added.

Gauhati HC issues notice to Assam CM for 'hate speech'

High Court observes that the Chief Minister's statements cited by the petitioners appeared to show a 'fissiparous tendency'; the petitioners argued that his words ran against the Preamble

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Gauhati High Court on Thursday issued notice to Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma after hearing multiple petitions seeking action against him for alleged hate speeches targeting Muslims whom the Chief Minister addresses as the 'miya' community.

Miya is a pejorative term commonly used in Assam to refer to Bengali-speaking or Bengali-origin Muslims. The Chief Minister has gone on record to say that the word means "illegal immigrants".

A Division Bench, comprising Chief Justice Ashutosh Kumar and Justice Arun Dev Choudhury, heard senior advocates representing the petitioners and directed that notices be served to the Chief Minister, as well as the Union and the Assam governments. The next hearing is scheduled for April 21.

The petitioners include the Congress, Assamese scholar Hiren Gohain, and the Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)].

Congress members raise slogans as security personnel try to stop them during a protest against Assam CM earlier this month. PTI

They had initially approached the Supreme Court. The top court advised them to go to the High Court.

Advocates Abhishek Manu Singhvi, Chander Uday Singh and Meenakshi Arora argued that Mr. Sarma made provocative and threatening statements against Muslims in Assam.

They pointed to a video (now deleted) shared on X showing the Chief Minister symbolically shooting at people wearing skull caps and told the court about his reported plans to manipulate the voters' list, an alleged threat to restrict voting rights, and a call for an economic boycott of the community.

'Habitual pattern'

Mr. Singhvi argued that Mr. Sarma's repeated statements reflected a "habitual pattern of incitement" and were not in keeping with his duties as the head of the State.

Ms. Arora made a similar argument, citing instances where the Chief Minister discouraged students from attending institutions founded by people from minority communities.

They argued that such remarks violated constitutional principles, including the secular mandate and provisions of equality enshrined in the Preamble, and could threaten law and order.

The court observed that the statements cited by the petitioners appeared to show a "fissiparous tendency" but said it would examine all submissions before drawing a conclusion.

'Vandalised' Nehru statue in Assam restored

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The authorities in Cachar district of Assam said on Thursday, that a "vandalised" statue of former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru has been restored.

In a letter to District Commissioner Aayush Garg on Wednesday, Rajya Sabha member Sushmita Dev sought an inquiry into the dismantling of the Nehru statue at Pailapool Chowrangi in Lakhipur town.

She represents the Trinamool Congress from West Bengal but is a resident of Silchar.

Referring to a video, she said the statue was uprooted on Monday. She called the incident a "national shame". "Merely reinstalling the statue without conducting a thorough probe and prosecuting those responsible would embolden future acts of vandalism," she said.

A senior district officer told *The Hindu* that the statue in question has been "duly restored" and the police were undertaking a probe after registering a first information report.

DGCA revises norms for air ticket refund

While the DGCA does not have the powers to oversee booking portals and the norms do not state that such portals must extend similar benefits to passengers, they are expected to mirror these provisions to retain customers and avoid losing the ticketing business to airlines.

The revised norms say that if a ticket is booked through a travel agent or a portal, the "onus of refund shall lie with the airlines as agents are their appointed representatives". This assumes significance in light of instances when airline cancellations left passengers' money stuck with travel agents or portals, most notably during the collapse of Go First and Jet Airways, with agents saying that they were unable to process refunds as advance payments for those tickets had already been remitted to the airlines.

Under the revised norms, medical emergencies will entitle passengers to opt for either a cash refund or a refund coupon (credit shell).

"In the event of ticket cancellations due to a medical emergency, where the passenger or a family member listed on the same PNR gets admitted/hospitalised during the travel period, airlines may provide either a refund or a credit shell," the norms said.

For other medical grounds cited for cancellation, refunds will be processed only after the airline's medicine specialist, or a DGCA-empaneled medicine expert, reviews the passenger's fitness-to-travel certificate and gives an opinion.

The rules have retained the provision for free name change due to an error within 24 hours. These were announced after the regulator posted a draft proposal on October 31, 2025, and invited comments from industry stakeholders.

CJI vows Registry reforms after similar cases listed before different Benches

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant on Thursday vowed reform in the working of the Supreme Court Registry after finding that similar cases are being listed for hearing before different Benches of the court.

The Chief Justice, in a cutting remark, said there were officials who view Supreme Court judges as transients while themselves as settled residents of the court.

"There are employees or officials who think they are here for 20 or 30 years. They justify that a judge would go a maximum of eight years in the Supreme Court. So they think we [judges] come and go and they are the permanent people, and therefore things must happen as they want. That is what is bothering me. If I am not able to bring this reform before I demit office, then it will be a failure of my duty," Chief Justice Kant said.

The case concerned a writ petition filed by Irfan Solanki raising the contention that the definition of 'organised crime' in the Uttar Pradesh Gangsters Act was repugnant to the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, a Central law which replaced the Indian Penal Code. Counsel for the petitioner, senior advocate Shoeb Alam, said the case was listed before the Chief Justice Bench when identical petitions on the same question of repugnancy were pending before another Bench of the apex court.

Mr. Alam, exasperated at one point, asked the Chief Justice to allow him to withdraw the petition. However the CJI said he should not withdraw, and the petition would be a case in point in further reforms in the Registry working.

Deeper probe needed

"The matter requires a deeper probe. This is about the functioning of the Registry of this court. The biggest challenge before me is the Registry of this court, so I have to hold a deeper probe into how a matter, after one Bench has expressed a final opinion, travels to the another Bench..." Chief Justice Kant said.

Chargesheet copies should be given to kin of victims: SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and other probe agencies to share copies of chargesheets filed in the 2023 Manipur ethnic violence cases to victims and their families.

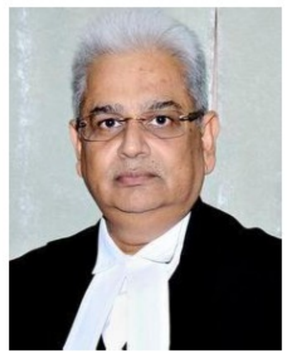
A three-judge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant issued the directions after perusing the 12th status report submitted by former Maharashtra Director-General of Police Dattatray Padsalgikar.

According to the report, the CBI has filed chargesheets in 20 cases, while investigation in six other FIRs was under way and expected to be completed within six months.

The Bench directed the CBI to complete investigation in the remaining cases within the stipulated time.

Manipur inquiry panel chief quits, ex-SC judge steps in

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI



Justice Ajai Lamba (retd.) cited personal reasons for his exit.

Ajai Lamba, the former Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court, has resigned as chairperson of the three-member Commission of Inquiry notified by the Union Home Ministry in 2023 to probe the Manipur ethnic violence. Former Supreme Court judge Balbir Singh Chauhan, who is heading the judicial inquiry into the violence in Leh city last September, will replace him. The submission or the conclusion of the judicial report on Ladakh violence has not been announced yet.

Justice Lamba (retd.) told *The Hindu* that he had quit a few days ago on "personal grounds".

Since its formation on June 4, 2023, the commission was given four extensions, the latest on December 16, 2025. It has received around 11,000 affidavits.

A government source said the commission has segregated the affidavits and has made a list of people who would depose in Delhi.

"The security and safety of the witnesses will have to be ensured. The commission will take care of their travel, stay and other logistics. As the Kuki-Zo people do not want to go to Imphal to record their statements, arrangements will have to be made in Delhi. Similarly, the Meitei people will also be called to Delhi," said the source.

Government officials and members of the public are expected to begin recording the evidence soon.

On Thursday, a Ministry notification said, "....consequent upon the acceptance of resignation of Honourable Justice Ajai Lamba, former Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court, from the post of the Chairperson of Commission of Inquiry appointed for the purpose of making an inquiry into a definite matter of public importance, namely, incidents of violence in Manipur, w.e.f. 28.02.2026, the Central Government hereby appoints Honourable Justice Balbir Singh Chauhan, former Justice in Supreme Court of India, w.e.f. 01.03.2026, as Chairperson of the said Commission in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section 3 of section (3) of the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 (60 of 1952)."

The commission is mandated to probe the causes, extent of the violence and riots targeting members of different communities, the sequence of events and whether there were any lapses or dereliction of duty in this regard on the part of any of the responsible authorities.

BJD seeks Odisha Minister's resignation

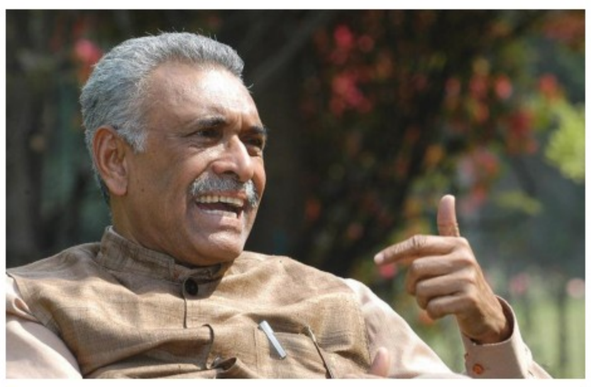
The Hindu Bureau
BHUBANESWAR

The Biju Janata Dal has demanded the resignation of Odisha Supply Minister Krushna Chandra Patra following the death of Trilochan Nayak, a farmer, whose family said that he died after waiting for days with his paddy stock at a procurement centre in Kendrapara district.

According to the brother of the deceased, the farmer died on Wednesday, prior to which he had spent three days exposed to the weather at the paddy procurement centre. Addressing a press meet on Thursday, BJD vice-president, Debi Prasad Mishra said that the BJP government had failed in paddy procurement, which had worsened the condition of farmers.

Eminent scholar who placed Indian sociology on global intellectual map passes away at 88

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM



T.K. OOMMEN (1937-2026)

T.K. Oommen, eminent sociologist and Professor-emeritus at the Centre for the Study of Social Systems of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), who is regarded as a leading architect of modern Indian sociology, passed away on Thursday. He was 88, and his end came in Gurugram.

A respected scholar, teacher and author, Professor Oommen is known for his writings and approaches to social justice, identity and pluralism. He had gained wide attention for his study of the Bhoodan Movement and as chairperson of the Advisory Committee of Gujarat Harmony Project, formed after the communal violence in the State.

Professor Oommen was a former president of the International Sociological Association (ISA), the Indian Sociological Society, and a member of the Sachar Committee which studied the social, economic and educational status of India's Muslim community.

For him, sociology was never a mere assemblage of abstract theories, but a scientific instrument to grasp the pulse of a society in constant transition, Antony Palackal, former Professor and Head, Department of Sociology, University of Kerala, said. Professor Oommen placed Indian sociology firmly on the global intellectual map, he said.

Five major domains

"His scholarship spanned five major domains. First, he examined social movements and their transformative potential, beginning with his study of the Bhoodan Movement. Second, in the sociology of occupation, his study of the nursing profession (1978) was pioneering, bringing attention to socially undervalued yet indispensable occupations. Third, in his work on state and ethnicity, most notably in "Understanding security: a new perspective", he offered a novel framework for analysing social security in the context of communal violence and ethnic conflict in India. He interrogated the complex relationship between State and civil society and explored how modern nation-states confront dissent and pluralism. Throughout, he argued that sociology is not an isolated discipline but one intrinsically connected to history, politics, and culture," Dr. Palackal said.

Professor Oommen was born on October 16, 1937 in Venmony, Alappuzha, which was then part of Travancore. He described "his own position 'pluralist,' advocating theoretical eclecticism with attention to historical diversities, and reconciliation of national and basic humanist values, the 'alien' and the 'indigenous'," the ISA has noted in his biography on its website.

An author of around 20 books, he was also a recipient of a clutch of prestigious awards including the Padma Bhushan in 2008. He is a recipient of the V.K.R.V. Rao prize in sociology, the G.S. Ghurye prize in Sociology and Social Anthropology, and the UGC's Swami Pranavananda Award in Sociology.

APPEAL

Ms.Brinda, Bhagwan Mahaveer Jain Hospital Code No.INP20012, 8 years Daughter of Lokesh is suffering from Thalassemia Major and has been on regular Blood Transfusion from 6 months of age. The only curative option for this condition is Bone Marrow Transplantation (B.M.T.). The overall cost of the Transplant would be about Rs.15,00,000/-.

Please send donation however small by Cheque/D.D/M.O Fav. **Save Poor Lives** A/c Brinda, **Our A/c Details:** S/B A/c No. 20000913487. S.B.I. R.A.Puram, IFSC CODE:SBIN0001855. Please Donate by G-pay No.9884607377, UPI Id: savepoorlives@oksbi. Donations are exempted under 80G of I.T.ACT.

SAVE POOR LIVES, Flat No. A1, Ceebros Garden, Door No.14/76, Kamarajar Salai, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-600028. Ph. No. 044 42044165 / 9884607377. Email: savepoorlives@gmail.com. Our website: www.savepoorlives.com

India is not North Korea, Rahul Gandhi tells Modi

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Accusing the Narendra Modi government of criminalising peaceful protest and suppressing dissent, former Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said India was not an authoritarian regime like North Korea.

The Opposition leader made these remarks in a social media post after the Delhi Police invoked charges of rioting and promoting enmity between different groups against Youth Congress workers who had carried out a "shirtless protest" at the AI Impact Summit.

"Modi *ji*, this is not North Korea, it is India. When those in power start seeing themselves as the nation and dissent as the enemy – that is when democracy dies," said Mr. Gandhi, who is the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. "In today's India, under the rule of a Compromised PM, peaceful protest has been turned into the biggest crime. The world's largest democracy is being slowly pushed in a direction where dissent is labelled as treason and asking questions is called a conspiracy," he added.

India's security interests linked to stability in West Asia: Modi

India and Israel to work closely for the implementation of IMEC, I2U2 projects; PM's visit concluded with a joint statement that described bilateral ties as 'special strategic partnership'; tensions between Iran, U.S. came up for discussion, Misri says

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India's security interests are "directly linked" to peace and stability in the West Asian region and that is why India has consistently sought a resolution of West Asian regional tensions through peaceful means, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in Israel on Thursday.

After holding talks with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Jerusalem, Mr. Modi said the two sides had decided to work closely for the implementation of the India Middle East Economic Corridor (IMEC) and the I2U2 (India-Israel-UAE-USA) projects.

"Peace and stability in West Asia are directly linked to India's security interests. Therefore, from the very beginning, we have supported dialogue and a peaceful resolution of issues. This is the call of the Global South and of humanity as a whole," said Mr. Modi in his speech laying out India's position on the tense situation that is prevailing in the Gulf region because of growing tension between Iran and Israel-U.S. coalition.

PM Narendra Modi at the Hall of Remembrance in Jerusalem. His Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu is also present. AFP

Regarding India's position on terrorism, Mr. Modi said, "Terrorism has no place in the world. In any form, and in any manifestation, terrorism cannot be accepted."

In a special briefing for the media towards the end of the visit, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said the "ongoing" tension between Iran and the U.S. came up for discussion between the two Prime Ministers. "The regional situation and these tensions did come up for discussion between the two Prime Ministers. The Prime Minister made his point stating India's firm belief in the value of dialogue and the value of pursuing peaceful solutions to all such issues and also reiterated his readiness to offer India's support if there is any way in which India's support is required towards a peaceful solution," he said.

The External Affairs Ministry said the two Prime Ministers discussed possibilities of close cooperation "across all domains". The two sides sealed multiple MoUs including one on cooperation in the field of "geophysical exploration" that will enhance bilateral cooperation in "mineral exploration using advanced geophysical and AI technologies" and include "sustainable resource development".

'Will move ahead'

Mr. Modi further said India and Israel will move ahead with "renewed momentum" on IMEC and I2U2 projects that aim to increase cooperation on connectivity, digital public infrastructure and food production. Mr. Misri, in response to a question from the Israeli media, clarified that the "regional situation does weigh on the progress of the initiative". He, however, said "there are countries" that are taking steps in their "national capacities" for advancing the components of the IMEC project.

Mr. Misri's statement came in response to a question on how Israel's relation with Saudi Arabia, which is stuck because of a lack of progress on the issue of Palestinian statehood, could impact the IMEC project.

Mr. Modi's visit to Israel concluded with the two sides bringing out a joint statement that described the bilateral relation as a "special strategic partnership".

The statement said the two leaders have instructed the respective negotiating teams to prepare for an "early signing of a Free Trade Agreement".

Earlier, Mr. Modi visited the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum in Jerusalem.

PM Modi meets Indian-origin Jews in Israel

JERUSALEM
Prime Minister Narendra Modi met and interacted with prominent members of the Indian-origin Jewish community on Thursday. While addressing them, Mr. Modi recognised the Indian-origin Jewish community in Israel and highlighted its contributions in education, culture, public life, and national service. PTI

Modi directs authorities to probe NCERT textbook row

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has asked for fixing accountability with regard to the row over the NCERT Class 8 textbook chapter on "corruption" in judiciary. According to government sources, Mr. Modi is said to have directed that the matter be looked into in detail, and accountability be fixed.

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday said the Centre would conduct an inquiry into the matter. He said that responsibility would be fixed and that action would be taken against officials responsible for it.

The chapter 'The role of the judiciary in our society' mentions that corruption, a massive backlog of cases, and a lack of adequate number of judges were among the "challenges" faced by the judicial system. The section in question in the new textbook created outrage this week, even as a Supreme Court Bench led by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant registered a *suo motu* case over it calling it a "selective reference", with the NCERT withdrawing the textbook from distribution. Hours after the court took up the case, the NCERT issued a statement apologising and regretting the "inappropriate textual material" and "error in judgement" that had "crept into" the chapter.

> The moment it came to our notice, directions were issued to withdraw the book. We have the utmost respect for the judiciary
>
> **DHARMENDRA PRADHAN**
> Union Education Minister

The Education Ministry on Thursday wrote to the Ministries of Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics, asking them to stop the dissemination of the textbook through digital platforms and electronic media, officials said.

Mr. Pradhan spoke to presspersons in Jharkhand, saying he was "deeply saddened" by the issue. He expressed regret over it. "The moment it came to our notice, directions were issued to withdraw the book and stop its distribution. We have the utmost respect for the judiciary and there was no intent to disrespect the judiciary," he said. He said the Centre had taken note of the court's directions and would comply with them.

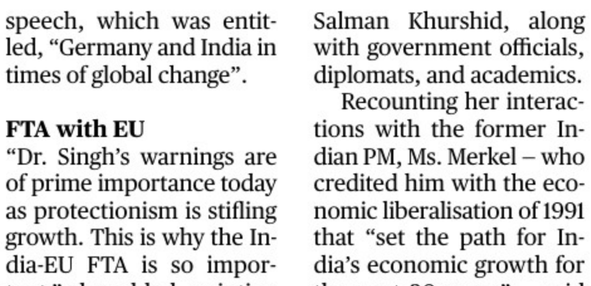
Protectionism is stifling growth, says Merkel at Manmohan Singh Lecture

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

The global "order of cooperation" has been supplanted by "might makes right", former German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Thursday, blaming Russia for overturning territorial principles in its invasion of Ukraine, and the United States for weakening the United Nations and multilateralism.

Delivering the inaugural Dr. Manmohan Singh Memorial Lecture, Ms. Merkel said many of the issues facing the world today could benefit from Singh's "works and beliefs". Her term as Chancellor of Germany (2005-2021) overlapped with his tenure as Prime Minister of India (2004-2014). Ms. Merkel welcomed the finalisation of the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement (FTA) that they had initiated in 2006, after "a marathon of negotiations", in January this year.

"After the global financial crisis (2008) and its impact – recession in industrialised nations and the developing world –[Dr. Singh] made it clear that these difficulties needed cooperation, not confrontation," Ms. Merkel told former National Security Adviser and author Shiv Shankar Menon in a conversation following the speech, which was entitled, "Germany and India in times of global change".


Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel during the inaugural Dr. Manmohan Singh Memorial Lecture in Delhi. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

FTA with EU

"Dr. Singh's warnings are of prime importance today as protectionism is stifling growth. This is why the India-EU FTA is so important," she added, pointing out that the agreement could only move forward after European countries agreed to keep the sensitive agricultural sector out of the negotiations.

The event was organised by the Manmohan Singh Trust, which was established by his family and supported by the government, after his death in 2024. It was attended by several Opposition leaders including former Congress president Sonia Gandhi, former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram, and former External Affairs Minister Salman Khurshid, along with government officials, diplomats, and academics.

Recounting her interactions with the former Indian PM, Ms. Merkel – who credited him with the economic liberalisation of 1991 that "set the path for India's economic growth for the next 30 years" – said he had never forced his opinions on her, but made her think about the conditions of the developing world, not just Europe and industrialised nations.

On climate change

She said she was disappointed that India did not initially support her objectives on climate change, as Singh said Parliament would never allow binding commitments on carbon reduction.

The resultant compromises eventually led to the adoption of the Paris climate accord, she said.

Issuing a warning about the advent of unregulated technology, particularly artificial intelligence, she said that it was the responsibility of governments to protect the interests of their people, and hold big technology companies, social media platforms, and AI developers to account.

"Those of us still believing in multilateralism must work to protect these interests, as countries like China are setting their own rules and the United States is trying to prevent any kind of regulation [of AI]. If we don't, the principle of multilateralism will be outdated and ossified," Ms. Merkel said, adding that Singh's record could be a source of "inspiration and courage" to find a way through the divergence.

Ms. Merkel, who has recounted her meetings with both former PM Singh and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in her memoirs, *Freedom*, said that she had been particularly impressed with India's size and vast population, but also its diversity. During her lecture, she mentioned Singh's tenure as the first Prime Minister from a minority (Sikh) community of more than a billion Indians as a matter of "pride".

Ms. Merkel said that democracy was under "pressure" across the world.

Textbook rewrite an RSS-driven exercise: Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday claimed the Supreme Court is "rightly agitated" over the NCERT textbook for Class 8 and accused the Centre of orchestrating an "Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh-driven exercise full of mischief and malice" in the rewriting of school textbooks.

Congress communications chief Jairam Ramesh made these remarks after the Supreme Court imposed a ban on a Class 8 NCERT social science textbook that contained references to corruption in the judiciary. Observing that it would not allow "anyone on earth" to tarnish the judiciary's integrity, a three-judge Bench expressed strong disapproval of the contents.

"The Supreme Court is rightly agitated over critical references to the judiciary in NCERT textbooks. Actually the way NCERT textbooks have been rewritten over the past decade is disgraceful, apart from being dangerous," Mr. Ramesh said in an social media platform X post.

"It has been a RSS-driven exercise full of mischief and malice. It is this racket that needs to be investigated," the Congress leader added.

INBRIEF

Om Birla reconstitutes probe panel against Justice Varma

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has reconstituted the three-member inquiry committee tasked with examining the grounds for the removal of Justice Yashwant Varma. The committee was originally constituted in March last year following demands for Justice Varma's removal after bundles of burnt cash were allegedly discovered at his residence. As per the notification, the panel comprises Justice Aravind Kumar of the Supreme Court; Justice Chandrashekhar, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court; and B.V. Acharya, senior advocate, Karnataka High Court. The panel will come into effect from March 6.

Sunetra Pawar unanimously elected NCP national chief

Nearly a month after Nationalist Congress Party chief Ajit Pawar's sudden death, the party's national conference on Thursday unanimously elected his wife, Sunetra Pawar, as his successor, while his son Parth Pawar was chosen to represent the party in the Rajya Sabha. Praful Patel was re-elected as the NCP's national working president, while Sunil Tatkare was unanimously re-elected as the chief of the party's Maharashtra unit. Ms. Pawar said that while the responsibility might be challenging, it would not be impossible."Politics and social life are not new for me. I have been connected with NCP, directly or indirectly over the last several years," she said.

Bankim Chandra's descendant joins BJP ahead of Bengal poll

Sumitra Chattopadhyay, a fifth-generation descendant of littérateur Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay, on Thursday joined the Bharatiya Janata Party. The development comes ahead of the Assembly election in West Bengal when the BJP is highlighting the contribution of Chattopadhyay and the National Song *Vande Mataram* written by him. Mr. Sumitra, a former official with the State Labour Department, was formally welcomed into the party by BJP State president Samik Bhattacharya and Union Minister Bhupender Yadav. Mr. Sumitra raised concern regarding the State government policy on employment generation. He also criticised the Yuva Sathi scheme which promises an unemployment allowance of ₹1,500 a month.

Odisha State Health & Family Welfare Society
Dept. of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Odisha
Annex Building of SIH & FW, Nayapalli, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar-751012. Phone : 0674-2392480/88

Advt. No. 04/26 — Date : 27.02.2026

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR SELECTION OF SERVICE PROVIDER FOR DIAGNOSIS & REPORTING OF SICKLE CELL ANEMIA & THALASSEMIA USING HPLC/ELECTROPHORESIS METHOD (Re-Tender)

Sealed proposals are invited from eligible bidders for the Services of diagnosis & reporting of Sickle Cell Anemia & Thalassemia disease at community level for the target population through confirmatory test using HPLC / Electrophoresis method. The intending bidder may download the RFP document from the website **www.nhmodisha.gov.in** (under Link: **"Tender"**).

The bid schedule is as mentioned below :

Date & Time of Pre-bid Meeting	Last date & time of Submission of bid	Date & time of Opening of Technical Bid
6.3.2026, 3.30 PM	20.03.2026, 3 PM	20.03.2026, 4 PM

Any clarification / amendments in above RFP due to decision in pre-bid meeting shall **only** be notified in the **website mentioned above**. The sealed proposals should reach the office of the undersigned by courier / registered post or may be dropped in the tender box, on or before the stipulated date & time of bid submission mentioned above. The undersigned reserves the right to reject any or all the proposals or cancel the bid without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/- Mission Director, NHM, Odisha

10001/89/2526 — OIPR-10001/10084/1/25-26/0004

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
PROJECT MANAGEMENT UNIT - ADB
SUBASH CHANDRA BOSE STREET, 1ST FLOOR (COMPUTER DESIGN CENTRE) P.W.D., PUDUCHERRY

No.850/PW/PMU-ADB/F.No.26/2025-26 — Puducherry, dt. 25.02.2026

Notice Inviting e-Tender

The Project Manager (Executive Engineer Design), Project Management Unit - ADB, Public Works Department, Puducherry invites on behalf of the President of India, online National Competitive Bidding in accordance with Asian Development Bank (**"ADB"**) Single-Stage: Two-Envelope bidding system (item rate) for the following works.

Sl. No	NPC Tender No	Name of Work	Bid Security / EMD (Rs.)	Stipulated Period of Completion (including monsoon period)	Eligibility of contractor
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
01	02/PWD/ ADB/ PDY/ 2025-26	Providing and Laying Underground Sewerage Networks in Zones 13-5 and 14-3 and Constructing In-line Pumping Stations 13-5-1,14-3-1,14-3-2 and 14-3-3 at Thengaithittu and Ariyankuppam in Puducherry	90,00,000/-	36 Months	Appropriate eligible class
02	03/PWD/ ADB/ PDY/ 2025-26	Providing and Laying Underground Sewerage Networks in Zones 13-Park and 14-2 and Constructing In-line Pumping Stations 13-Park- 6, 13-Park-1 and 14-2-1 at Nainar Mandapam and Murungapakkam in Puducherry	1,00,00,000/-	36 Months	Appropriate eligible class
03	04/PWD/ ADB/ PDY/ 2025-26	Providing and Laying Underground Sewerage Networks in Zones 12-1 and 12-2 and Constructing In-line Pumping Station 12-2-1 at Odiampet in Puducherry	1,10,00,000/-	36 Months	Appropriate eligible class
04	05/PWD/ ADB/ PDY/ 2025-26	Condition Assessment and Rehabilitation of the old Sewerage system at Muthialpet in Puducherry	80,00,000/-	42 Months	Appropriate eligible class
05	06/PWD/ADB/ PDY/2025-26	Condition Assessment and Rehabilitation of the old Sewerage system at Orleanpet & Rainbow Nagar, Puducherry	1,10,00,000/-	42 Months	Appropriate eligible class
Availability of Notice Inviting Bid along with Bid documents			From **10.00 A.M on 27.02.2026 to 4.00 P.M. on 01.04.2026**		

The detailed procedure is available in the Tender Notice which can be downloaded along with bid forms and other details from the website **www.pudutenders.gov.in** only.

No.871/DIP/AD(Press)/2025-26

Project Manager (Executive Engineer Design)
PMU - ADB, PWD, Puducherry

INBRIEF

CBI conducts searches at Anil Ambani's residence, RCom

The Central Bureau of Investigation has conducted searches on the premises of businessman Anil Ambani after registering a second case against him and Reliance Communications Limited for allegedly cheating the Bank of Baroda of ₹2,220 crore. On Thursday, Mr. Ambani appeared before the Enforcement Directorate for recording his statement in connection with another alleged bank loan fraud case. "The CBI has conducted searches at the residence of Anil Ambani and the registered offices of Reliance Communication Ltd. Various documents connected with this loan transactions have been recovered," it said.

Prosecution orders against Chidambaram placed in court

The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday said that it has placed before a special court the prosecution sanction orders received from the competent authority against former Union Finance Minister P. Chidambaram with an aim to "expedite the trial" in INX Media Private Limited and Aircel-Maxis deal cases. Mr. Chidambaram and his son Karti P. Chidambaram have always refuted the charges in these cases. Through a press release, the ED alleged: "...investigation has revealed that Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) approval was granted to M/s INX Media Pvt. Ltd. during the tenure of Shri P. Chidambaram as the Union Finance Minister... "

66 died in Chhattisgarh jails since Jan. 2025: State govt.

Opposition members caused an uproar in the Chhattisgarh Legislative Assembly on Thursday over the recent custodial death of a tribal leader after the State government informed the House that 66 inmates had died in the State's jails between January 2025 and January 31 this year. During the question hour, former Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Bhupesh Baghel asked a question on the number of custodial deaths in the State's jails in the past 13 months. Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma replied that 66 inmates, including convicts, died in central and district jails across the State during the 13 months ending on January 31, 2026.

CDSCO revises testing norms to fast-track drug approvals

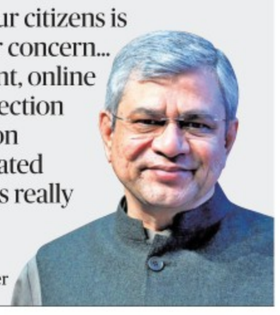
In a move aimed at speeding up approvals for new drugs, the government has changed the way testing permissions are granted, allowing companies to begin laboratory testing immediately after filing applications instead of waiting for detailed scrutiny. In an official circular, the country's apex drug regulatory authority, Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), said it has decided that "No Objection Certificate for testing of drug samples at the designated laboratories shall be issued immediately upon receipt of applications in the concerned division." The new system will come into effect from June 1, 2026. PTI

I&B Minister asks online platforms to take responsibility for content

Vaishnaw flags major threats from deepfakes and synthetically generated content; urges platforms to take proactive actions against cybercrime, and ensure revenue sharing with original content creators, including conventional media, journalists

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> Online safety of our citizens is becoming a major concern... authenticity of news content, online safety of our children, protection against obscenity, protection against synthetically generated fake content, all those items really need a decisive step today
>
> **ASHWINI VAISHNAW**
> Information and Broadcasting Minister



Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday said online platforms must take responsibility for the content they host, act proactively against cybercrimes, and ensure online safety of citizens. They should share revenue fairly with original content creators, including the conventional media, he said.

"I will request all the platforms to rethink your revenue sharing policies because that is also one of the major concerns that the entire society today is raising. And if this is not done voluntarily, then there are so many countries which have shown the path to get it done in a legal way," Mr. Vaishnaw said.

At the Digital News Publishers Association (DNPA) Conclave, Mr. Vaishnaw identified deepfakes and the spread of disinformation through synthetically generated content as major threats to the trust in institutions, and a democratic way of coming together and deciding things.

"That is the inflection point where we are standing today...online safety of our citizens is becoming a major concern...authenticity of news content, online safety of our children, protection against obscenity, protection against synthetically generated fake content, all those items really need a very decisive step today," he said.

Stating that online safety of all citizens was a duty of the platforms, he said: "Non-adherence to these principles will definitely make them responsible because the nature of content has changed now, and synthetic content should not be generated without the consent of the person whose face or voice or personality has been used to create the content."

The Minister said the platforms should check whether they were allowing any content that was illegal, causing harm to the citizens or inciting the commission of a crime. Pointing out that the virality of platform-generated/hosted content was such that completely false information could spread to millions, he said the platforms "must take the responsibility for the hosted harmful content".

Mr. Vaishnaw said the platforms should also take proactive actions on cybercrimes. "In the recent past, we passed a law by which crores of families are saved from becoming absolutely bankrupt by losing out their money to the online money games...," he said.

Mr. Vaishnaw stressed that the platforms must also share revenue in a fair way with original content creators, including the conventional media, journalists, influencers, professors, and researchers.

Two Maoists killed in encounter in Bijapur

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Two area committee members of the Maoists were killed in an encounter with security forces in Bijapur district of Chhattisgarh on Thursday, the police said.

Both the slain Maoists were carrying a reward of ₹5 lakh each.

A senior police officer said that based on a tip-off about the presence of armed Maoist cadres of the Bhairamgarh Area Committee in the Jaigur-Dodum area of Bijapur district, a search operation was launched on Wednesday.

After the encounter between the security forces and Maoists in the Indravati river area on Thursday, bodies of two uniformed Maoists were recovered. Weapons and explosives were also recovered from the site, the officer added.

Star wedding

One for the album: Actors Rashmika Mandanna and Vijay Deverakonda during their wedding at a venue on the outskirts of Udaipur in Rajasthan on Thursday. PTI

Railway Minister announces portal to attract tech innovations

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Wednesday announced a Rail Tech policy aimed at engaging innovators and start-ups to drive technological innovation in the sector.

The policy proposes a dedicated innovation portal to enable open submissions of detailed proposals, and provides financial support of up to 50% of the development cost for selected solutions.

Addressing a press conference, the Minister said the objective of the move is to shift away from the earlier complex system of vendor selection based strictly on rigid specifications and to create a simplified, innovation-driven framework focused on trial and adoption of new technologies.

Explaining the funding structure, he noted that when a start-up or innovator proposes a viable technological solution, the Railways would support up to 50% of the required development funding. Once the project proves successful, it would place substantial long-term orders to enable scaling of the solution.

Innovation areas include AI-powered elephant intrusion detection systems to reduce wildlife collision, AI-based fire detection systems in coaches, drone-based broken rail detection, rail stress monitoring systems, sensor-based load calculation devices for parcel vans (VPUs), solar panel integration on coaches, and AI-enabled coach cleaning monitoring systems, among others.

Develop protocol for filling vacancies in open correctional institutions, SC tells States

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The court constituted a high-powered committee for reform and governance of OCIs

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the States and Union Territories to develop a time-bound protocol for filling existing vacancies in Open Correctional Institutions (OCI) and open barracks.

A Bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, in a judgment, observed that prisons were institutions of correction, where dignity, self-respect and social reintegration were not aspirational ideals but constitutional necessities.

The court underscored that OCIs did not function merely as labour camps or spaces of custodial convenience.

The court also took note of under-representation of women prisoners from OCIs and directed States and Union Territories to develop protocol for restructuring existing OCIs to allocate adequate capacity for female prisoners. The directions came on a PIL petition regarding overcrowding in prisons and the functioning of OCIs.

Recognising the absence of uniformity in governance, eligibility norms, rehabilitation facilities and management of OCIs, the court constituted a high-powered committee for reform and governance of OCIs with former Supreme Court judge Justice S. Ravindra Bhat as executive chairperson.

The objective of the committee is formulation of common minimum standards for the governance, administration and management of OCIs, including eligibility criteria, living conditions, etc, the Bench said.

Top court seeks names for expert committee to define the Aravallis

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Environment Ministry and other stakeholders to suggest names of domain experts for the panel which would define the Aravalli hills and ranges, and observed that only lawful mining would be allowed in the region.

The top court, on December 29, took note of the outcry over the new definition of the Aravallis and kept in abeyance its November 20 directions that accepted a uniform definition of these hills and ranges. It also stalled all mining activities.

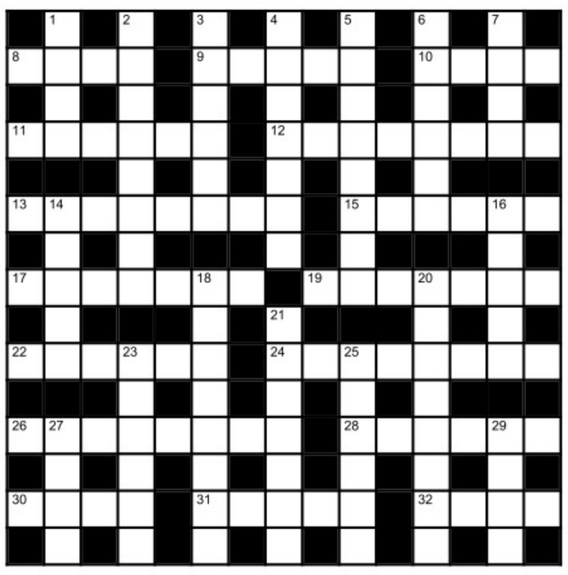
On Thursday, a Bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M. Pancholi extended its earlier stay order for the time being.

TH CROSSWORD + 14728

(set by Incognito)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://thehindu.com/crosswords*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 After fighting, start to prod and twist (4)
9 Mahmood, a singer found in Agartala, Tripura (5)
10 After dropping girl, villager minced calf flesh (4)
11 Spot something on the bulletin board (6)
12 Remain motionless! Buck in front of a net is agitated! (8)
13 Current church man is absolutely correct (8)
15 Melted ghee covering egg spread around top of toast for German polymath (6)
17 Non-believer, perhaps, at robbery (7)
19 Say "I do" again? (7)
22 Do well in Klamath river (6)
24 Strong desire to achieve limit with charged particle (8)
26 Collie going around duke died, hit when moving (8)
28 Passion to posses silver plant (6)
30 Chess piece one may leave with uncle (4)
31 Disney at Zulu dance (5)
32 Throw sots around (4)

Down

1 Before commencement of October, May produces sauce (4)
2 Update it erroneously showing lack of this (8)
3 Greek goddess, then, is in custody of Australian Army (6)
4 In sleeping place, heavy drinker went red (7)
5 Choke stern gal at sea (8)
6 Show niece running around 5 (6)
7 Philosopher from Banaskantha (4)
14 Nab animal with child (5)
16 Oprah returns for one of the Marx brothers (5)
18 Worried POW tends to give up one's job (4-4)
20 Vacate it by mistake and energise (8)
21 Distributes a medal without North African leader (7)
23 After one, sand covers large cay (6)
25 Central American country where six footer consumes half of lizard (6)
27 Path for consuming some medicine or a lozenge initially (4)
29 Having flatulence, husband gets large cut (4)

SUDOKU

				1			4	8
7	2	5		3				
					2			
	3	1						7
	8						2	
9						4	3	
			4					
				2		5	9	4
6	1			7				

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

No.SS6804 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

D	R	A	W	N	E	A	R		U	B	O	A	T	S
O		N		O		N		S		I		D		T
V	E	N	O	M		T	R	A	I	L	B	I	K	E
E		O		A		S		L		L		E		V
R	I	Y	A	D	H		A	T	T	I	T	U	D	E
		A				S		P		A				N
C	A	N	N	A		E	X	E	C	R	A	T	E	S
I		C		U		V		T		D		R		O
G	R	E	A	T	B	E	A	R		S	P	U	R	N
A				H		N		E				N		
R	E	D	C	O	A	T	S		R	A	S	C	A	L
E		E		R		E		O		W		H		O
T	U	B	B	I	N	E	S	S		A	T	E	I	N
T		T		T		N		L		R		O		E
E	S	S	A	Y	S		L	O	N	D	O	N	E	R

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	3	9	4	1	2	8	7	6
7	1	4	8	6	9	5	3	2
2	6	8	5	7	3	4	9	1
6	9	5	7	8	4	2	1	3
3	8	7	9	2	1	6	4	5
1	4	2	6	3	5	9	8	7
9	7	6	1	5	8	3	2	4
4	5	3	2	9	7	1	6	8
8	2	1	3	4	6	7	5	9

FAITH

Sivaji, emperor of devotion

Centuries after his passing, Maratha king Chhatrapati Sivaji is celebrated not merely for his prowess in warfare, but also for leading the faithful towards a godly life, at a time when there were numerous challenges dogging Sanatana Dharma.

He was aided by numerous saints, especially from Maharashtra, whose lives and contribution to faith have been chronicled widely but each retelling helps a devotee straddle material and spiritual paths.

Two such great spiritual leaders and contemporaries of Sivaji, Sant Tukaram and Sant Ramadasa, guided disciples in their divergent ways, said K. Savithri. Tukaram lit up the musical path with his abhangs and unswerving devotion to Panduranga.

On one occasion, when Sivaji and his troops arrived suddenly, enough food appears for the entire entourage at Ramadasa's camp. The same thing happened when the troops visit Tukaram, unannounced. How is this possible, wondered Sivaji. Panduranga knows what to give me and when, responds Tukaram. He never lets down a devotee, added the Sant.

Travelling across the country, Ramadasa roused people from their lethargic acceptance of status quo, raising their spiritual awareness. He rallied spiritual leaders, who travelled to small towns and villages, highlighting the efficacy of faith, resulting in the Ramadasa Sampradaya. Sivaji, twinning with him on this plateau, took both Tukaram and Ramadasa as his spiritual gurus. Sivaji understood that God was the greatest and lived with renewed bhakti, leading his subjects along the same spiritual path.

INBRIEF

Sugar production expected to be 324 lakh tonnes: ISMA

The Indian Sugar and Bio-energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) has estimated sugar production during the current marketing season (October 2025 to September 2026) to be 324 lakh tonnes as against 296.25 lakh tonnes in the last season. According to ISMA, 31 lakh tonnes will be diverted for ethanol, almost four lakh tonnes less than that in the 2024-2025 sugar season, and net sugar production will be 293 lakh tonnes, about 30 lakh tonnes more than last year.

InvIT investors get return of ₹5,565 crore in October-Dec.

Listed Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) have collectively distributed a return of ₹5,565 crore to around 4 lakh unitholders during Q3 of FY26, marking another quarter of steady growth. The sector comprising 26 business trusts gave a return of ₹4,287 crore to its unitholders in the second quarter of the ongoing financial year. Distribution represents the overall return paid out to unitholders and comprises multiple components such as interest, dividends, and other income streams. PTI

PhonePe posts strong revenue growth, narrowing losses

PhonePe has reported strong revenue growth and sharply narrowing losses over the past three fiscal years, signalling a shift towards sustainable monetisation and operational efficiency, according to its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP). Revenue from operations rose to ₹71,14.85 crore in FY25 from ₹2,914.28 crore in FY23, reflecting a CAGR of 56.25%. The company's revenue mix has diversified significantly beyond core UPI payments. PTI

SEBI broadens MF categories to keep pace with investor preferences

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has broadened mutual fund categories in line with the proposals made in a consultation paper last year.

According to a circular released on Thursday, the SEBI has introduced another new category called the lifecycle fund and done away with retirement and children's fund. The regulator said that the lifecycle funds would have a minimum duration of five years and maximum duration of 30 years.

Asset management companies can now introduce mutual fund schemes investing in debt instruments of companies in specific sectors. A sectoral fund would have a minimum investment of 80% in debt and debt related instruments of a particular sector across duration. The investment would be listed only in corporate bonds with a credit rating of more than AA+.

The SEBI also said that the sectoral debt funds may be launched in financial services, energy, infrastructure, housing, and real estate.

The residual investment in long duration funds can be invested in InvITS. This is on the condition that the stocks that are not more than 50% of the stocks in a sectoral debt fund can overlap with any other equity fund, according to the circular.

New GDP data set to capture economy more accurately

The new series of national accounts to be released on Friday is the culmination of a wide consultative process, spanning multiple sub-committees, and incorporating many changes

NEWS ANALYSIS

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The new series of national accounts data to be released on Friday will incorporate several methodological and statistical upgrades that will make India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Value Added (GVA) data more accurate and granular, an analysis of the various changes being implemented shows.

Over the last week, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has made public the reports of various sub-committees tasked with looking at specific ways to upgrade the national accounts data. These upgrades include better methodologies, and the inclusion of new data sets, such as the Goods and Services Tax (GST) data.

The most visible of the changes in the national accounts data is that the base year will be updated from 2011-12 to 2022-23, making both the GDP and GVA data more accurate representations of the current economy, while also improving comparisons over time periods. The Sub-Committee on Methodological Improvements proposed several sector-wise improvements that have been implemented.

For instance, for the non-financial private corporate sector, the currently-used 2011-12 series of data deals with companies that operate across sectors by allocating that entire company's GVA to the sector in which the bulk of its activity is. In the new series, the activity-wise revenue share for a company is being used to calculate the value added in each business activity. This will help capture all the activity in each sector.

Another improvement, to do with the general government sector, is that the new series will also include the value of the housing services provided by governments to their employees. This will mean that the value of services provided is more accurately captured when measuring the output of the general government. Further, the coverage of autonomous institutes and local bodies has also been enhanced.

For households, the new series will use the Annual Survey of Unincorporated Sector Enterprises (ASUSE) and Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) on an annual basis instead of extrapolating data as was done in the 2011-12 series. This will mean that the household sector, which has a significant contribution to the economy, is directly estimated each year.

Another major component of the economy – private final consumption expenditure, or basically consumption spending by the people – will also be measured in a more granular manner through the enhanced use of Household Consumer Expenditure Surveys and direct estimation based on production and other data sources.

New data sources

The new series of national accounts data will also include new data sources and will use existing sources better. For example, GST data was so far being used in the quarterly accounts of GDP and GVA, and only for some sectors in the annual data.

In the new series, GST data will be used to better estimate the regional output of private corporations, and will also be used to more accurately determine the contribution of the value added by private companies to the GDP of the country. The GST data will also be used to identify active private companies to improve the accuracy of estimating the value added by non-reporting companies. This will ensure that output and value added data more accurately captures what is happening on the ground.

The Sub-Committee on Incorporation for New Data Sources, Rates and Ratios also noted that States have enhanced their reporting of data from local bodies and state autonomous bodies, which will increase the amount of data that can be directly estimated rather than imputed.

The new series will use the Statistical Table Related to Banks in India (STRBI) published by the Reserve Bank of India to estimate the activity of both public sector banks as well as private sector banks. Further, the earlier proxy-based approach to estimate the activity of private Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) is being replaced by the use of actual financial data of NBFCs from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

Overall, the ASUSE data has been used more effectively to capture aspects that were earlier not being included accurately.

New avatar

The upgrades include better methodologies, and the inclusion of new data sets, such as the GST data

- Most visible change in national accounts data is the base year's update from 2011-12 to 2022-23
- Activity-wise revenue share for a company used to calculate the value added in each business activity
- New series to also include value of the housing services provided by governments to their employees

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	82,249	-0.03
US Dollar	90.91	0.00
Gold	1,62,900	-0.79
Brent oil	72.10	2.12

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2216.40	-15.30
Adani Ports	1550.60	21.90
Apollo Hosp	7775.00	-8.00
Asian Paints	2394.90	-21.50
Axis Bank	1395.50	-7.50
Bajaj Auto	10110.00	13.00
Bajaj Finserv	2041.30	-8.00
Bajaj Finance	1012.95	-8.10
Bharat Elec	449.05	9.75
Bharti Airtel	1929.60	16.20
Cipla	1358.10	12.00
Coal India	433.50	-5.10
Dr Reddys Lab	1319.30	12.80
Eicher Motors	8190.00	182.00
Eternal Ltd.	246.50	-3.70
Grasim Ind	2863.50	-14.90
HCL Tech	1373.50	-4.70
HDFC Bank	898.60	-9.00
HDFC Life	734.00	-1.25
Hindalco	941.30	3.90
Hind Unilever	2383.30	8.40
ICICI Bank	1404.90	4.40
IntGlobeAvi	4933.50	-13.90
Infosys	1289.10	-1.00
ITC	318.30	-1.45
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	256.15	-0.80
JSW Steel	1280.60	5.60
Kotak Bank	424.55	-0.40
L&T	4286.50	-12.00
M&M	3484.60	-6.70
Maruti Suzuki	15213.00	143.00
Max Healthcare	1109.90	21.80
NestleIndia	1318.00	-5.40
NTPC	381.90	-3.00
ONGC	280.10	2.65
PowerGrid Corp	303.25	-4.00
Reliance Ind	1406.80	8.30
SBI Life	2082.80	9.20
State Bank	1209.50	9.40
Shriram Finance Ltd.	1104.60	18.70
Sun Pharma	1785.70	21.50
TataConsumerProduct	1159.50	-12.80
Tata Steel	215.52	0.88
TCS	2647.70	18.40
Tech Mahindra	1361.80	0.00
Titan	4342.60	17.60
Tata Motors PV	391.55	9.70
Trent Ltd.	3856.00	-66.00
UltraTech Cement	12937.00	-104.00
Wipro	201.08	-0.84

RBI okays SBI MF's acquisition in Bandhan Bank

The RBI has approved a proposal by SBI Mutual Fund to acquire an aggregate holding of up to 9.99% in Bandhan Bank, according to a regulatory filing on Thursday. PTI

Had 'fruitful' talks with U.S. Commerce Secretary: Goyal

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Goyal with Howard Lutnick and U.S. Ambassador to India Sergio Gor in New Delhi.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said he held "fruitful" discussions with U.S. Secretary of Commerce Howard Lutnick and U.S. Ambassador to India Sergio Gor on Thursday.

The meeting comes days after negotiators on both sides decided to postpone the Indian team's visit to Washington for a meeting that was scheduled from February 23-25 to finalise the interim agreement on trade between the two countries.

The decision followed the U.S. Supreme Court striking down U.S. President Donald Trump's use of particular legislation to implement tariffs on partner countries, including on India. "Hosted US Secretary of Commerce @HowardLutnick & @USAmbIndia Sergio Gor. Engaged in very fruitful discussions to expand our trade and economic partnership," Mr. Goyal posted on X.

Mr. Gor, too, took to X to say that he had a "highly productive lunch" with Mr. Lutnick and Mr. Goyal, and that there were "so many areas of cooperation" for India and the U.S.

The two countries have so far only signed and announced a joint statement saying they have "reached a framework for an Interim Agreement" regarding reciprocal and mutually beneficial trade. That agreement was supposed to be signed in mid-March and implemented by early April, according to Mr. Goyal. In response to the U.S. Supreme Court decision, the Indian government issued a statement saying it had "noted" the judgment and that the government was "studying all these developments for their implications". It did not, however, indicate that it was re-thinking the interim agreement.

'Soaring memory costs to reduce PC shipments'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Soaring memory costs are projected to drive worldwide PC shipments to decline 10.4% and smartphone shipments to drop by 8.4% in 2026, compared with 2025 levels, Gartner reported on Wednesday.

Gartner also estimated a 130% surge in combined dynamic random access memory (DRAM) and solid-state drive (SSD) prices by the end of 2026, which would increase PC prices by 17% and smartphone prices by 13%. Due to rising costs, Gartner said it expects PC lifetime to increase by 15% for business buyers and 20% for consumers by the end of 2026.

Optimum Solutions, ABeam Consulting open GCC in Hyderabad

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Singapore-headquartered IT services and digital transformation firm Optimum Solutions and Japanese global consulting firm ABeam Consulting on Thursday announced the setting up of their global capability centre in Hyderabad and plans to hire 2,000 professionals, for the facility by 2030.

The focus of the GCC will be to assist Japanese customers in their enterprise transformation projects. It will serve as a dedicated global delivery hub supporting Japanese enterprises across digital transformation, enterprise modernisation, cloud migration, data engineering and AI-led innovation, the firms said.

Optimum and ABeam Consulting seek to build on their partnership that is built on shared governance and long-term commitment. The GCC will combine ABeam's consulting leadership and deep relationships with Japanese enterprises with Optimum's engineering scale and global delivery expertise. The headcount by 2026 is expected to touch 300.

Textile exporters seek restoration of RoDTEP

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

Close to 58% of cotton textile exports have been hit by the RoDTEP rate cut

Textile exporters have expressed apprehension that exports will be hit with reduction of Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme rates.

Cotton textile exports in 2024-2025 stood at $11.03 billion (almost ₹96,220 crore) and it accounts for 30% of India's textile and clothing exports.

Close to 58% of the exports of cotton textiles have been affected by the sudden reduction in RoDTEP rates, the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council said.

The RoDTEP committee is reviewing the rates and the unexpected reduction of rates has led to uncertainties, the Manmade and Technical Textiles Export Promotion Council said.

There is a rush to ship goods in March as the financial year will conclude and exporters will be affected.

The RoDTEP scheme is only remission of the taxes and duties already paid and exporters would have calculated the costs based on the earlier RoDTEP rates, the exporters said.

BANGALORE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly Owned Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal Only))

BESCOM invites tenders vide new inquiry Nos: **BESCOM/2025-26/SE0414 to BESCOM/2025-26/SE0435,** through KPP Portal from eligible bidders for **"Setting up of EV charging stations in Karnataka at 22 No's of District under PPP model".**
Bid document will be available from **02.03.2026 @ 11:00 am Onwards.**
The Bid documents can be downloaded and necessary assistance can be obtained from Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP) website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Aspiring bidders need to register on KPP portal. Further, bidders can take assistance with KPP portal helpdesk at 9240214000, 9240214001.
Earlier tenders Enquiry Nos: **BESCOM/2025-26/SE0363 to BESCOM/2025-26/SE0375 and BESCOM/2025-26/SE0377 to BESCOM/2025-26/SE0385** invited by BESCOM, were cancelled due to technical issues.

Sd/-
General Manager (Elec),
DSM, Electrical Vehicle Cell, Block-2,
1st Floor, Corporate Office, BESCOM,
K. R. Cricle, Bangalore - 560 001.

For Electricity Related Complaints Call: 1912
Download BESCOM MITHRA Mobile App.

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा0नि0वि0 सम्भाग कोटा
क्रमांक : 3969 दिनांक: 16.02.2026

संशोधित निविदा संख्या–41/2025–26

इस कार्यालय के पत्रांक 3471 दिनांक 08.01.2026 के द्वारा प्रकाशित निविदा सूचना संख्या–41/2025–26 में अपरिहार्य कारणों से निम्न संशोधन किया जाता है।

क्र. सं.	पूर्व में	अब यह पढा जावे
1	ऑन लाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख **23.01.2026 से 23.02.2026 सांय 6.00 बजे तक**	ऑन लाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख **23.01.2026 से 17.03.2026 सांय 6.00 बजे तक**
2	ऑन लाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख **23.01.2026 से 23.02.2026 सांय 6.00 बजे तक**	ऑन लाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख **23.01.2026 से 17.03.2026 सांय 6.00 बजे तक**
3	ऑन लाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख **25.02.2026 अपरान्हः 3.00 बजे तक**	ऑन लाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख **19.03.2026 अपरान्हः 3.00 बजे तक**
4	बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्य हेतु बजट मद 8443–00–108–00–00(निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075–00–800–52–01 RISL शुल्क रू. 2500/– बजट मद 8658–00–102–(16)–[02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई–ग्रास पर ई–प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से **दिनांक 23.02.2025** सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशाषी अभियंता सा0नि0वि0 नगर खण्ड कोटा के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है। या एक ही चालान से निविदा शुल्क, ई–ग्रास के माध्यम से बजट मद 0075–00–800–52–01 में एवं RISL शुल्क रू. 2500/– बजट मद 8658–00–102–(16)–[02] में जमा कराया जा सकता है तथा बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) बैंकर चैक/ मांगदेय ड्राफ्ट/ अनुसूचित बैंक की बैंक गारन्टी से भी जमा करायी जा सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में दिनांक 24.02.2026 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक Certificate of Correctness of bid documents शपथ पत्र रू. 1000/ स्टाम्प पर, ई–ग्रास चालन, बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) मूल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में इस प्रयोजनार्थ एवं निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कराया जाना आवश्यक है।	बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) निर्माण कार्य हेतु बजट मद 8443–00–108–00–00(निर्माण विभागों) दस्तावेज मूल्य (निविदा शुल्क) बजट मद 0075–00–800–52–01 RISL शुल्क रू. 2500/– बजट मद 8658–00–102–(16)–[02] (निर्माण विभाग) ई–ग्रास पर ई–प्रोक्योरमेन्ट प्रक्रिया हेतु एक ही चालान से **दिनांक 17.03.2025** सायं 6.00 बजे तक अधिशाषी अभियंता सा0नि0वि0 नगर खण्ड कोटा के नाम जमा करवाई जानी है। या एक ही चालान से निविदा शुल्क, ई–ग्रास के माध्यम से बजट मद 0075–00–800–52–01 में एवं RISL शुल्क रू. 2500/– बजट मद 8658–00–102–(16)–[02] में जमा कराया जा सकता है तथा बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) बैंकर चैक/ मांगदेय ड्राफ्ट/ अनुसूचित बैंक की बैंक गारन्टी से भी जमा करायी जा सकती है। अधोहस्ताक्षरकर्ता के कार्यालय में दिनांक 18.03.2026 को सायं 4.00 बजे तक Certificate of Correctness of bid documents शपथ पत्र रू. 1000/ स्टाम्प पर, ई–ग्रास चालन, बिड सिक्यूरिटी (बोली प्रतिभूति) मूल दस्तावेज कार्यालय में इस प्रयोजनार्थ एवं निविदा बॉक्स में जमा कराया जाना आवश्यक है।
5	प्री–बिड मिटिंग दिनांक 06.2.2026 प्रातः 11.00 बजे, कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा0नि0वि0 संभाग कोटा	प्री–बिड मिटिंग दिनांक 05.03.2026 प्रातः 11.00 बजे, कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता सा0नि0वि0 संभाग कोटा

निविदा की अन्य शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

UBN No. PWD2526WLOB20275
DIPR/C/3670/26

अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता
सा0नि0वि0 सम्भाग कोटा

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एवं शिक्षा परिषद
INDIAN COUNCIL OF FORESTRY RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
(पर्यावरण एवं वन मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार की एक स्वायत्त निकाय)
(An autonomous body of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India)
पो० ऑ० न्यू फॉरेस्ट, देहरादून– 248006 (उत्तराखण्ड)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun – 248 006 (Uttarakhand)

विज्ञप्ति सं. 26/निदेशक(आई.सी.) भा.वा.अ.शि.प.(मु0)/2026–भा0वा0अ0शि0प0

Advt. No. 26/Director(IC)ICFRE(hqt.)/2026-ICFRE

भारतीय वानिकी अनुसंधान एंव शिक्षा परिषद देहरादून के अन्तर्गत 7वें वेतन आयोग के वेतन स्तर 14 के वेतनमान में निदेशक (अन्तराष्ट्रीय सहयोग) भा.वा.अ.शि.प.(मु0), देहरादून का पद प्रतिनियुक्ति के आधार पर भरने हेतु आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं।

Applications are invited for filling up the post of Director (International Cooperation), ICFRE(Hqr.), Dehradun in the pay scale at Level-14 of 7th CPC Pay Matrix on deputation basis at Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education, Dehradun.

उपरोक्त पद हेतु इच्छुक अभ्यर्थी भा0वा0अ0शि0प0 की वेबसाइट **http://www.icfre.org** में दिये गये विस्तृत विज्ञापन के अनुसार आवेदन कर सकते है। **आवेदन प्राप्त करने की अन्तिम तिथि 31.03.2026 है।**

The interested candidates may apply for the above said post as per detailed advertisement available at ICFRE website **http://www.icfre.org**. **The last date of receipt of applications is 31.03.2026.**

सचिव, भा0वा0अ0शि0प0
Secretary, ICFRE

कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, जोधपुर
जोधपुर 342304, राजस्थान, भारत

ई-निविदा 29/2025-26

कृषि विश्वविद्यालय, जोधपुर द्वारा Smart Class, Conference System & CCTV for CoA Baytu की खरीद के लिए ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा संबंधी विस्तृत विवरण एवं जानकारी **www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** एवं **https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर उपलब्ध है। **UBN NO. : JAU2526GLOB00224,**
EPROC ID: 2026_AGUJD_541249_1
राज.संवाद/सी/25/21244

नियंत्रक (वित्त)

राजस्थान धरोहर प्राधिकरण
भूतल पर्यटन भवन, संजय मार्ग (विधायकपुरी थाने के सामने) खासा कोठी, जयपुर-302001
Tel:-0141-2615648/40 Email: rhppa.jaipur@gmail.com

ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 38/2025-26

निम्नलिखित कार्यों के लिए केन्द्र/राज्य सरकार के अभियांत्रिकी विभागों द्वारा पंजीकृत एवं अनुभवी संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई–टेण्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र. सं.	कार्य का विवरण	अनुमानित लागत (रु.)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1	Renovation and Development work at Ajaypal Mandir Bhairav Ghati Ajmer (Raj) **UBN : HPP2526WSOB00053**	49 Lakh	12 Months

निविदा से संबंधित समस्त विवरण वेबसाइट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** एवं **http://sppp.raj.nic.in** पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक निविदादाताओं को अपने डिजीटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाइट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर रजिस्टर करवाना आवश्यक है।
राज.संवाद/सी/25/21247

मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी

Government of Punjab
Municipal Corporation, Amritsar, Dept. of Local Govt.
Punjab Municipal Services Improvement Project (PMSIP) - P170811
(Funded by WB & AIIB)

REQUEST FOR BIDS

No. S.E.(civil)/WB/175 **Dated: 25.02.2026**

The Superintending Engineer(civil), Municipal Corporation, Amritsar, on behalf of the Employer "Municipal Corporation Amritsar (MCA)", Punjab, invites online Proposals from eligible Proposers for the following project:

RFP No.	Name of the Project	Start Date and Time	Closing Date & Time	Opening Date & Time
IN-MCA-356876-CW-RFB	Construction of Office for Water Utility at Amritsar	26.02.2026 from 14:00 Hour (IST)	30.03.2026 upto 14:00 Hours (IST)	30.03.2026 at 14:30 Hours (IST)

Notice inviting tenders which includes instructions for 'Submission of Proposals' and all other relevant information is available on **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**
Note: Any corrigendum(s) to the tender / RFB notice shall be published on the above website only.

Superintending Engineer(c),
Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.
1596/12/2025-26/8804

GENEVA

Civilian death toll in Sudan war more than doubled in 2025: UN

AP

Killings of civilians in Sudan's war more than doubled in 2025 compared with the previous year, the United Nations rights chief Volker Turk said on Thursday, warning that thousands more dead are unidentified or remain missing. Sexual violence has also surged, Mr. Turk said, with more than 500 victims documented in 2025. AFP

HAVANA

Four killed in speedboat shooting during infiltration attempt: Cuba

AFP

Cuba's government claimed on Wednesday that 10 armed U.S.-based Cubans on a Florida-registered speedboat tried infiltrating the island to unleash terrorism, firing first on its soldiers. Security forces killed four persons while six were wounded. Most had criminal histories. AP

DHAKA

Bangladesh to request Interpol red notice for arrest of British MP

AP

A court in Dhaka on Thursday ordered authorities to request that Interpol issue a red notice for the arrest of a British lawmaker on charges of corruption in a private real estate project. Tulip Siddiq, a former British Minister and an MP from Hampstead and Highgate in London, faces charges of corruption in Bangladesh. PTI

GENEVA

Israel aims to bring 'permanent change' to West Bank, Gaza: UN

AFP

Israel's actions in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip seem aimed at creating "permanent demographic change", UN rights chief Volker Turk said on Thursday. Mr. Turk pointed in particular to an ongoing Israeli military operation in the West Bank's north that has caused the displacement of 32,000 Palestinians. AFP

Voters go to the polls in a crucial byelection test for U.K.'s Starmer

Anything other than a victory for Labour could make it very difficult for Prime Minister Starmer to serve out his full term; a recent poll on voting intentions showed Labour at 28%, Greens at 28% and the far-right Reform UK just behind at 27%

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Voters went to the polls in the Gorton and Denton constituency in south Manchester, to choose a new MP in a three-way contest that has become a crucial test for U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer.

Anything other than a victory for Labour's Angeliki Stogia on Thursday could make it very difficult for Mr. Starmer to serve out his full term as Prime Minister. Reform's candidate for the race is a former academic and GB News presenter, Matt Goodwin, and the Green Party's candidate is local councillor and plumber Hannah Spencer. In the Runcorn and Helsby election in May last year, the former Conservative-turned-Reform candidate managed to snatch the seat from Labour. A recent poll by Opinium on voting intentions showed Labour at 28%, the Greens at 28% and the far-right nativist Reform UK party just behind at 27%. A total of 11 candidates are running for the seat, which was most recently held by Labour but became vacant after MP Andrew Gwynn had resigned on health grounds. The MP was also under parliamentary investigation for the alleged sharing of inappropriate comments on fellow lawmakers and voters on a WhatsApp group.

People arrive at a polling station at St. Peter's Church to vote in the Gorton and Denton byelection, in Manchester on Thursday. REUTERS

Since Labour won the general election in July 2024, there have been repeated skirmishes within the party over policies from welfare spending to tax reforms and a split in the vote, with progressives voting for the Greens – instead of tactically supporting Labour – could result in a victory for Reform.

Last month, party leaders on Labour's governing body, including Mr. Starmer, had blocked the popular Greater Manchester mayor Andrew Burnham from resigning his post to contest the byelection. One of the arguments was that it would be a needless use of resources to conduct another election for the vacated mayoral seat but critics had argued that Mr. Starmer was wary of clearing a path to Westminster for Mr. Burnham and a potential challenge to his leadership.

Afghan military attacks Pak. after deadly strikes

Agence France-Presse
KABUL

Afghanistan attacked Pakistani forces on Thursday and claimed to have killed and captured dozens of soldiers in retaliation for deadly air strikes days earlier.

The offensive at multiple points along the frontier follows a series of border clashes and Pakistani strikes on Afghanistan in recent months.

"In response to repeated violations by the Pakistani military, large-scale offensive operations were launched against Pakistani military bases and military installations," Taliban regime spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid said.

The governor's office and residents in the province of Kunar said that military action was under way, while Afghan officials said armed forces were operating in multiple other provinces.

Pakistan said the attack was "being met with immediate, and effective response".

Afghanistan "opened unprovoked fire on multiple locations" across the border in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, Islamabad's Information Ministry said.

The Taliban regime spokesperson said that Afghan forces had captured more than 15 Pakistani outposts in two hours.

The military operation follows Pakistani strikes on Nangarhar and Paktika provinces overnight into Sunday.

Afghan Taliban fighters patrol near the Afghanistan-Pakistan border in Spin Boldak, Kandahar province. REUTERS

Amid rising tensions in West Asia, Trump keeps shifting his Iran goal posts

NEWS ANALYSIS

Stanly Johny

The U.S. has mounted its largest military build-up in West Asia since the 2003 Iraq invasion. It has deployed two aircraft carrier strike groups, dozens of fighter jets and warships, refuelling aircraft and advanced missile defence systems. President Donald Trump has said he would use force if Iran fails to reach a deal. Yet he has also sent mixed signals about the purpose of the deployment and what exactly Washington wants from Tehran.

Does the U.S. seek regime change in Iran, as it once did in Iraq and Afghanistan? Is the current escalation driven by Iran's crackdown on domestic protests, its nuclear programme or its missile development? Mr. Trump has yet to articulate a coherent narrative explaining the objectives of his Iran policy.

Protests in Iran

On January 2, 2026, immediately after meeting Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in Florida, Mr. Trump said the U.S. was "locked and loaded" to respond if Iran killed protesters. On January 13, after Iran cracked down on protests, Mr. Trump asked Iranians to "take over institutions" and said that "help is on the way". But Mr. Trump did not order a strike on Iran. He later claimed Iran had paused planned executions of protesters. He then sent more offensive and defensive weapons to the region.

On January 29, Mr. Trump shifted focus away from protests and urged Tehran to come and negotiate a deal on its nuclear programme. This marked a notable turn. In early January, while threatening military action, he made no reference to the nuclear issue. In June 2025, after attacking Iran's nuclear facilities during the 12-day war, Mr. Trump had claimed that he had "obliterated" Iran's nuclear programme.

Nuclear diplomacy

Amid tensions and threats, the U.S. and Iran resumed nuclear diplomacy on February 6 in Muscat. Steve Witkoff, Mr. Trump's special envoy for West Asia, met Abbas Araghchi, the Iranian Foreign Minister. There were apparent disputes about the framework of the talks. Iran said it was ready to discuss the nuclear programme and open to a "fair and equitable deal". But Marco Rubio, the U.S. Secretary of State, said on February 4, that discussions should cover Iran's missile and nuclear programmes, its support for militia groups in the region and its treatment of its population. Despite the disagreements, talks went ahead.

Strike group: The U.S. Navy aircraft carrier *USS Gerald R. Ford* departs from Souda Bay on the island of Crete on Thursday. AFP

On February 22, after two rounds of talks, Mr. Witkoff said in an interview that Mr. Trump had given him a clear direction on what he wanted to achieve. "Zero zero enrichment, we have to get the material back." Mr. Witkoff did not say anything about Iran's missile programme or its support for militias when he talked about Mr. Trump's red lines. He also said the President was curious to know why Iran "has not capitulated" despite America's troop build-up near its shores.

Iranian officials have repeatedly said they were not planning to make a nuclear bomb, but refused to give up their enrichment capabilities or enriched uranium. Iran's missile programme and its support for militias, they say, are non-negotiable.

Deal or war?

On February 24, on the eve of Mr. Trump's State of the Union Address, Mr. Araghchi confirmed a third round of talks with the U.S. on February 26. "Our fundamental convictions are crystal clear: Iran will under no circumstances ever develop a nuclear weapon," he wrote in a social media post. "Neither will Iranians forgo our right to harness the dividends of peaceful nuclear technology for our people," he said.

In the State of the Union address, Mr. Trump repeated his claim that the U.S. attack had "obliterated Iran's nuclear programme". The Iranians are starting their nuclear programme "all over", he added. "They want to make a deal but we haven't heard those secret words: 'We will never have a nuclear weapon'." He slammed Iran's missile programme, its support for militias and its crackdown on protesters, but he did not demand any concession about these issues as part of a deal. He did not even mention Iran's enrichment capabilities.

Mr. Trump talked only about a nuclear weapon. He said he "will never allow" Iran to have nuclear weapons. And the Iranians have repeatedly said that they were not planning to have a nuclear bomb. "If the main issue in the negotiations is Iran not developing nuclear weapons, this aligns with #Leader_Fatwa and #Iran_Defensive_Doctrine, and an immediate agreement is within reach," Ali Shamkhani, chief of Iran's newly created Defence Council and a heavyweight in the system, wrote in a social media post on Thursday, referring to Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei's fatwa against nuclear weapons. "Araghchi has sufficient support and authority for this deal," he added.

'Significant progress' in U.S., Iran talks: Oman's Minister

Associated Press
GENEVA

Iran and the United States wrapped up another round of indirect talks in Geneva on Thursday aimed at reaching a deal on Tehran's nuclear programme and potentially averting another war as the U.S. gathers a massive fleet of aircraft and warships in the West Asia.

U.S. President Donald Trump wants a deal to constrain Iran's nuclear programme, and he sees an opportunity while the country is struggling at home with growing dissent following nationwide protests. Iran also hopes to avert war, but maintains it has the right to enrich uranium and does not want to discuss other issues, like its long-range missile programme or support for armed groups like Hamas and Hezbollah.

Badr al-Busaidi

Oman's Foreign Minister, who is mediating the talks, said on Thursday that they had ended but "will resume soon". Badr al-Busaidi wrote on X that there had been "significant progress in the negotiation" without elaborating.

He said technical-level talks would take place next week in Vienna, home to the International Atomic Energy Agency. There was no immediate comment from U.S. or Iranian officials.

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said diplomats held "very intensive" negotiations, meeting with the Omani envoy and the head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations' nuclear watchdog. He said the Iranians felt there were "constructive proposals" offered on both nuclear issues and sanctions relief.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS - TIRUPATI
S.V. INSTITUTE OF HIGHER VEDIC STUDIES, TTD, TIRUPATI.

NOTIFICATION No.01/2026 | Roc No. PO-2/TTD-35021(88)/32/2019-SVIHVS Dated:25-02-2026
Applications are invited from the eligible **AHITAGNIS** to be enrolled under **AHITAGNI SCHEME** of T.T. Devasthanams. **LAST DATE for receipt of APPLICATION is 20-03-2026.** Please visit for details **www.tirumala.org. PERSONS PROFESSING HINDU RELIGION SHOULD ONLY APPLY.** The TTD management has right to cancel the notification / postpone the enrolment / Interviews, if any, without any intimation to the candidates on administrative reasons.

TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC(Adv.No.418) Date:26-02-2026 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Rajasthan State Road Development And Construction Corporation Ltd., JAIPUR
No. : NIT/2025-26/39542 - 51 Date : 25/02/2026
अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना संख्या 730/2025-26
निम्नलिखित परियोजनाओं पर पथकर वसूली हेतु ई-टेन्डरिंग प्रक्रिया से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

कार्य का विवरण	कार्य की कुल अनुमानित लागत (रु.)
Selection of Bidder for Collection of User Fee on the basis of competitive bidding through e-procurement basis for the following:-	
On Pali-Nadol-Gomati Ka Chouraha BOT Road" for a period of 01 year UBN: RRC2526WLOB01244	1379.70 Lakh

निविदा से सम्बन्धित प्रपत्र में निविदा शुल्क, धरोहर राशि, डाउनलोड करने व खोलने की तारीख सहित सम्पूर्ण विवरण एवं संशोधन वेबसाईट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.nic.in तथा http://pwd.rajasthan.gov.in/rsrdc** पर देखा जा सकता है। इच्छुक संवेदकों को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है। महाप्रबंधक

Irrigation Department, Office of the Superintending Engineer, Project Circle, Kannur
TENDER ADVERTISEMENT

Name of work	GENERAL-DRIP-Phase II-Balance Work-DRIP-Phase II - Karapuzha Irrigation Project-Rehabilitation and Optimisation of Dam and Appurtenances-General Civil Work
Tender ID	2026_PCKNR_833735_1
RFB No.	DRIP/KRP/SE/KNR/11/2025/26/NS, Dtd :06.02.2026.
Date of publishing	06.02.2026
Bid Submission End Date	09.03.2026
EMD	6,38,000/-
Tender Class	A Class

कार्यालय श्री सांवलियाजी मंदिर मण्डल, मण्डफिया, जिला-चित्तौड़गढ़ (राज.)
क्रमांक / लेखा / श्रीसांमंम / 2025–26 / 2775 दिनांक –: 25.02.2026
–: ई–निविदा सूचना–26/2025–26 :–
श्री सांवलियाजी मंदिर मण्डल, मण्डफिया द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु पंजिकृत व योग्य संवेदकों से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में ई–प्रोक्यूरमेंट प्रक्रिया के माध्यम से ऑनलाईन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा प्रपत्र, विस्तृत विवरण व अन्य शर्तें **http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** तथा **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** पोर्टल पर दिनांक **27/02/2026** को प्रातः **09:00** बजे से उपलब्ध होकर दिनांक **18/03/2026** सायं **06:00** बजे तक ऑन लाईन सबमिट किये जा सकते है जिनकी तकनीकी निविदाएं दिनांक **20/03/2026** को दोपहर **12:00** बजे ऑनलाईन खोली जावेगी। निविदा संबंधी शुल्क व राशियां निविदा प्रपत्र में अंकित बैंक खाते में जमा करवानी होगी।

क्र	कार्य का विवरण	अनु. लागत (लाखों में)	UBN
1.	Providing & Fixing Ornamental Carved Sheesham Wooden Door For Temple At Shri Sanwaliya Ji Mandir Mandal Mandfiya.	14.00	SMM2526WSOB00090
2.	SITC of Servo Voltage Stabilizer work in S.S.M.M., Mandfiya.	19.00	SMM2526WSOB00091
3.	SITC of CCTV Surveillance System at New Dharmshala at Mandfiya.	47.00	SMM2526WSOB00092
4.	SITC of Transformer and other electric work at New Dharmshala in shree sanwaliya ji mandir mandal Mandfiya.	47.00	SMM2526WSOB00093
5.	SITC of High Mast Lighting System at 16 Village in Shree Sanwaliya ji Mandir Mandal.	66.00	SMM2526WSOB00094
6.	SITC of Ceiling Mounted direct drive HVLS fan in Shri Sanwaliyaji Temple at Mandfhiya.	68.00	SMM2526WSOB00095
7.	Painting & Rajasthani Art Work At SSMM Campus, Mandfiya.	100.00	SMM2526WSOB00096
8.	Development Work of Mokshdham at Karoli Village.	129.00	SMM2526WSOB00097
9.	SITC of CCTV Surveillance System at Campus of Shri Sanwaliya ji Mandir at Mandafiya.	254.00	SMM2526WSOB00098
10.	Construction of boundary Wall, Shed, Development of School Ground at Mandafiya.	390.00	SMM2526WSOB00099
11.	Construction of Patwar Bhawan At Mandfiya	29.00	SMM2526WSOB00100
12.	Supplying and fixing of Brass Railing, Bhandar & Gate of Shri Sanwaliya Ji Mandir At Mandfiya.	500.00	SMM2526WSOB00101
13.	Construction of Road From Bhatoli Gujran To Nalyakhera-Nadakhera Road, Bhatoli gujran, Kuretha to Tandikhera Road.	812.00	SMM2526WLOB00102

मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी
श्री सांवलियाजी मंदिर मण्डल

SCALING A PEAK

Team India records its highest total in T20 World Cup history

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

India's 256 for four against Zimbabwe in Chennai on Thursday is its highest total in T20 World Cup history, surpassing the 218 for four it managed against England in Durban in 2007. Overall, it is the second-highest total in the T20 showpiece, only behind Sri Lanka's 260 for six against Kenya (Johannesburg, 2007).

UNIQUE FEAT

Raza is first full-member player with 3,000 runs, 100 T20I wickets

B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Zimbabwe captain Sikandar Raza on Thursday became the first cricketer from a full-member nation to complete the double of 3,000 runs and 100 wickets in men's T20Is. He now has 3,016 runs and 104 wickets from 132 matches. Malaysia's Virandeep Singh is the other player to achieve the feat.

FULL BACKING

Santner makes you feel 10 feet tall and bulletproof: Rachin

GETTY IMAGES

He (Mitchell Santner) backs you and he pumps your tyres a lot. I think it is great to have a leader like him. He makes you feel 10 feet tall and bulletproof every time you go out onto the field. He is just a great presence to have around the group — New Zealand all-rounder Rachin Ravindra.

SEEKING HELP

There is a negative environment created from the outside: Shanaka

AP

No matter how positive we are as players, there is a negative environment created from the outside. At least for the players coming up next, if the government could interfere and stop those, I believe that will be a great help for better mental health — Sri Lanka skipper Dasun Shanaka after his team's exit from T20 World Cup.

Batters make merry as India outplays Zimbabwe, boosts its last-four hopes

Suryakumar's men notch up this edition's highest total after being put in by Raza on a flat track at Chepauk; opener Bennett fights hard; Arshdeep claims three as the defending champion eliminates the Africans; the home team will clash with the West Indies in a virtual quarterfinal on Sunday

T20 WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
CHENNAI

The template of posting massive runs and capitalising on the resultant scoreboard pressure on the rival was executed to a nicety as India owned the night. The host's cause was also helped by Zimbabwe's decision to field on winning the toss.

At a raucous M.A. Chidambaram Stadium, the defending champion prevailed over Sikandar Raza's men by 72 runs in the ICC T20 World Cup Super Eight Group 1 match here on Thursday. India's 256 for four proved too high a peak and Zimbabwe finished with 184 for six.

Openers Brian Bennett and Tadiwanashe Marumani consolidated initially, and after the latter was dismissed by Axar Patel, the former shifted gears. The left-arm spinner was clattered past and over the ropes but Varun Chakaravarthy prised out Dion Myers.

Swashbucklers: Abhishek and Hardik's quickfire fifties powered the Indians to a mammoth score. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Brutal assault

The visitors, though, leant on Bennett (97 n.o.) and he reached his fifty, clouting Jasprit Bumrah for six. He was brutal on Shivam Dube in an over that cost 26 runs. Raza allied with Bennett for a while, before Arshdeep Singh grabbed three wickets, and India stayed dominant.

Earlier, the crowd rooted for Sanju Samson, the latest recruit of the Chennai Super Kings, and Abhishek Sharma too had his fans. The openers set a frenzied pace with Samson hoisting Richard Ngavara. Blessing Muzarabani too suffered the same fate as Samson galloped. Meanwhile, Abhishek drilled Tinotenda Maposa past covers, and then lofted high.

However, Samson found his pull finding the fielder in the deep. India already had 48 in 3.4 overs, and immediately, southpaws Abhishek and Ishan Kishan forged a partnership yielding 72 from 42 deliveries.

The Men in Blue were on the ascendancy, and hearteningly for them, Abhishek (55) found his mojo. There was a sliver of luck when Kishan was dropped on 26 as Tashinga Musekiwa failed to hold on.

A relieved Kishan hit Raza for a four and a six, and then edged the spinner and retreated.

Suryakumar Yadav strode in and shuffled around for his scoops. Dropped on eight by Muzarabani, the skipper watched Abhishek leave, but the merry streak continued as Hardik Pandya (50 n.o.) sauntered in.

The all-rounder launched Ryan Burl into the skies, and after Suryakumar departed, Tilak Varma lit up the skies with luminous shots. There was power and disdain as the left-hander waded into the rival attack and India's firm grip on the contest never wavered despite Bennett's lone-warrior act.

Super Eight table

GROUP 1	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
South Africa (Q)	2	2	0	0	4	2.890
West Indies	2	1	1	0	2	1.791
India	2	1	1	0	2	-0.100
Zimbabwe	2	0	2	0	0	-4.475

GROUP 2	M	W	L	NR	PTS	NRR
England (Q)	2	2	0	0	4	1.491
New Zealand	2	1	0	1	3	3.050
Pakistan	2	0	1	1	1	-0.461
Sri Lanka	2	0	2	0	0	-2.800

Q: QUALIFIED

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Sanju Samson c Burl b Muzarabani 24 (*15b, 1x4, 2x6*), Abhishek Sharma c Raza b Maposa 55 (*30b, 4x4, 4x6*), Ishan Kishan c Ngarava b Raza 38 (*24b, 4x4, 1x6*), Suryakumar Yadav c Musekiwa b Ngarava 33 (*13b, 3x4, 2x6*), Hardik Pandya (not out) 50 (*23b, 2x4, 4x6*), Tilak Varma (not out) 44 (*16b, 3x4, 4x6*); Extras (lb-4, nb-1, w-7): 12; Total (for four wkts. in 20 overs): 256.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-48 (Samson, 3.4 overs), 2-120 (Kishan, 10.4), 3-150 (Abhishek, 12.5), 4-172 (Suryakumar, 14.5).

ZIMBABWE BOWLING

Ngarava 4-0-62-1, Muzarabani 4-0-43-1, Maposa 2-0-40-1, Evans 4-0-52-0, Raza 3-0-29-1, Bennett 2-0-16-0, Burl 1-0-10-0.

ZIMBABWE

Brian Bennett (not out) 97 (*59b, 8x4, 6x6*), Tadiwanashe Marumani c Kishan b Axar 20 (*20b, 2x6*), Dion Myers c Tilak b Varun 6 (*9b*), Sikandar Raza c Abhishek b Arshdeep 31 (*21b, 2x4, 2x6*), Ryan Burl lbw b Arshdeep 0 (*2b*), Tony Munyonga b Arshdeep 11 (*6b, 2x4*), Tashinga Musekiwa c Samson b Dube 7 (*4b, 1x6*), Brad Evans (not out) 1 (*1b*); Extras (b-1, lb-1, nb-2, w-7): 11; Total (for six wkts. in 20 overs): 184.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-44 (Marumani, 6.2), 2-72 (Myers, 9.3), 3-144 (Raza, 16.2), 4-144 (Burl, 16.4), 5-162 (Munyonga, 18.2), 6-173 (Musekiwa, 19.3).

INDIA BOWLING

Arshdeep 4-0-24-3, Hardik 3-0-21-0, Bumrah 3-0-21-0, Varun 4-0-35-1, Axar 4-0-35-1, Dube 2-0-46-1.

Toss: Zimbabwe.
Player-of-the-Match: Hardik Pandya.
India won by 72 runs.
India's next match:
March 1 vs. West Indies, Kolkata, 7 p.m.

Silver lining: Bennett waged a lone battle. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

We wanted to put fear in the opposition bowlers, says Tilak

Sankar Narayanan E.H.
CHENNAI

The Indian batters had a field day against Zimbabwe, each scoring at a strike rate of more than 150.

The under-fire Tilak Varma was back to his menacing best as he smashed an unbeaten 44 (16b, 3x4, 4x6) at a whopping strike rate of 275. The southpaw shed light on how everything clicked for the Men in Blue's willow-wielders at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium on Thursday.

"We were just looking for this. When the openers give a good start, the same confidence [trickles down] to Numbers 3, 4 and 5. (Sanju) Samson started brilliantly, and everyone followed [in the same vein]," Tilak said after India's 72-run win in a vital T20 World Cup Super Eight game.

"We wanted to continue hitting even if we had lost three or four wickets in the PowerPlay. We wanted to put fear in the opposition bowlers that these guys were ready to hit each and every ball."

> I always say that whatever the team needs, I am up for it
> TILAK

On being pushed down to No. 6, Tilak said: "I always say that whatever the team needs, I am up for it. I've done the same role for the Mumbai Indians, and I've done it in a few games for the Indian team, too."

Content with his effort

Zimbabwe's Brian Bennett, who scored an unbeaten 97, said he did not mind missing out on a century. "It would have been nice. But cricket is just like that sometimes. You are not going to get to the landmark always," he said.

On pursuing a mammoth target, he added: "Chasing 257 was always going to be tough. The chat was to go out there and express ourselves, and don't worry about the score".

Markram's blistering unbeaten knock helps the semifinal-bound South Africa crush West Indies

Marauder: Markram toyed with the Windies attack during his match-winning innings. VIJAY SONEJI

S. Dipak Ragav
AHMEDABAD

Aiden Markram led from the front as South Africa sent out a strong warning to the rivals with a commanding nine-wicket victory over the West Indies in their Super Eight Group 1 clash of the T20 World Cup here on Thursday.

In pursuit of 177, Markram toyed with the Caribbean bowlers, scoring an unbeaten 82 (46b, 7x4, 4x6) and putting his side on the cusp of the semifinals. India's victory over Zimbabwe later in the evening assured the Proteas a spot in the last-four stage.

South Africa had already shown how well prepared it was by tactically taking down India at this venue three days ago, and this performance reiterated that it is one of the favourites for the title.

Ngidi. VIJAY SONEJI

Right from the first over of the chase, the South African skipper was in such a dominant mood that he casually strolled down to the pacers and smacked them over the infield at will.

When the Windies bowlers tried to cramp him for room, he simply stood on the leg side of the deliveries to loft them over midwicket for a couple of sixes.

Soon, Quinton de Kock joined the action, depositing Shamar Joseph twice into the stands before taking on the spinners, as the duo added 95 for the opening wicket.

After de Kock departed, Ryan Rickelton ensured there would be no respite as he and his skipper overhauled the target with 23 balls to spare.

The platform for the win, though, was set up by the South African pacers, led by Lungi Ngidi (three for 30). With the Proteas electing to bowl, Kagiso Rabada and Ngidi bent their backs, extracting disconcerting bounce from the red-soil surface. They struck twice in their respective opening overs to reduce the two-time champion to 43 for four.

That soon became 83 for seven by the 11th over, as the West Indian batters stuck to their mantra of 'live or die by the sword' without adapting to the conditions.

But Romario Shepherd (52 n.o.) and Jason Holder (49) got the innings back on track through an 89-run eighth-wicket stand to take their team to 176 for eight and give the bowlers something to defend.

Markram, however, had other ideas as he scripted his outfit's sixth consecutive win of the competition.

The scores: West Indies 176/8 in 20 overs (Jason Holder 49, Romario Shepherd 52 n.o., Kagiso Rabada 2/22, Lungi Ngidi 3/30, Corbin Bosch 2/31) lost to South Africa 177/1 in 16.1 overs (Aiden Markram 82 n.o., Quinton de Kock 47, Ryan Rickelton 45 n.o.).
Toss: SA. **PoM:** Markram.

The boys are fully locked in: Markram

S. Dipak Ragav
AHMEDABAD

South Africa skipper Aiden Markram allayed concerns about complacency setting in after comprehensively beating strong teams like New Zealand, India and the West Indies.

"It doesn't feel easy, to be honest," said Markram after defeating the West Indies. "The boys, in every game and every meeting, are fully locked in. We've been on both the good and bad sides of World Cups, and it's definitely not something this group would take for granted.

"The guys have a lot of pride and are really on a mission to try to achieve something. For the time being, the guys have been tracking really well," the 31-year-old added.

Markram praised his bowlers for adapting to the conditions and restricting the Caribbean side to a below-par score. The South African quicks hit the deck hard, using the extra bounce to take wickets with the new ball before relying on variations in the death overs.

"Credit to the bowlers for getting it right the way they did. More often than not, you end up doing one thing throughout... for them to adapt and change while still executing was a big feather in their cap."

Meanwhile, West Indies skipper Shai Hope conceded that his team failed to assess the conditions and execute its plans properly. "Sometimes when you don't adapt and assess as quickly as you can, you find yourself playing catch-up."

When asked if the team could have been a bit more circumspect after losing wickets in the PowerPlay, he defended the approach.

INBRIEF

Ronaldo buys stake in second-tier Spanish club

Cristiano Ronaldo has purchased a 25% stake in Spanish second-division club Almeria that has a Saudi Arabina owner, a consulting firm representing him said on Thursday. "It has been a long-time ambition of mine to contribute to football, beyond the pitch. UD Almería is a Spanish club with strong foundations and clear potentia," Ronaldo said in the statement.

Drazic nets FC Goa's winner against Sporting Delhi

Host FC Goa rode on Dejan Drazic's 43rd minute strike to beat Sporting Delhi 1-0 in their ISL match at the Fatordra Stadium in Margao on Thursday. Unbeaten Goa now has seven points with two wins and one draw while Delhi has lost all its three matches.

India u-20 women play out a draw with Enskede IK Dam

The Indian under-20 women's football team played out a 1-1 draw against Swedish club Enskede IK Dam in a friendly at the Boson National Sports Centre in Lidingo, Sweden.

Srikanth loses to Lin in German Open second round

K. Srikanth lost 14-21, 9-21 to Taiwan's Lin Chun-Yi in the men's singles second round of the German Open Super 300 in Mulheim an der Ruhr on Thursday. It marked the end of India's campaign in the tournament.

Other results: Dutch Junior International, Haarlem:
Men: Dev Ruparelia bt Pranit Somani 21-9, 21-6; Samuel Tamang bt Axel Boesen 22-20, 16-21, 21-11.
Women: Durga Esha Kandrapu bt Olga Szwarowiecka 21-16, 21-9.

LIVE TELECAST

Ranji Trophy: Star Sports Khel & JioHotstar, 9.30 a.m.
Australia Women vs India Women: 2nd ODI, Star Sports 3 & JioHotstar, 9.20 a.m.
ISL: Sony Sports Ten 2 & FanCode, 5 & 7.30 p.m.
Men's T20 World Cup: Star Sports 1 & JioHotstar, 7 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 1 a.m. (Saturday)
Serie A: DAZN, 1.15 a.m. (Saturday)
LaLiga: FanCode, 1.30 a.m. (Saturday)
Premier League: SS Select 1 & JioHotstar, 1.30 a.m. (Saturday)

Black Caps will want to seal semifinal spot with a victory over England

A win over the two-time champion on Friday will take them to five points and eliminate Pakistan even before the Asian side's final Super Eight game

T20 WORLD CUP

Key figures: While the Kiwis will look to Santner for an encore like in the last game, England will hope that its other batters lend able support to skipper Brook. AP

Abhishek Saini
COLOMBO

New Zealand would want to avoid the headache of late qualification scenarios and secure a place in the semi-finals with a win over England in their T20 World Cup 2026 Super Eight match at the R. Premadasa Stadium here on Friday.

A 61-run victory over Sri Lanka cleared the simple and straightforward route for the Kiwis.

Beating England will take them to five points, enough to knock Pakistan out before it even takes the field in its final game on Saturday.

Nerve-racking
A reverse would not be the end for New Zealand, rather it would depend on Pakistan's result – always a nerve-racking proposition in a World Cup.

The New Zealand batting order will turn to Mitchell Santner and Cole McConchie for inspiration, whose doughty rearguard partnership snatched the contest out of Sri Lanka's grasp.

The pair exploited the lopsided ground dimensions, and the shorter 62-metre boundary will be the target zone for the New Zealand batters against the spin attack of Adil Rashid, Liam Dawson and Will Jacks.

Batting crisis
England, already through to the semifinals, has a batting crisis of its own to snap out of.

Harry Brook produced an innings fitting the proverbial 'captain's knock' against Pakistan, but its other batters have been mired in a slump.

The faith in Jos Buttler has been reiterated umpteen times this World Cup, but it might be running thin after four consecutive single-digit scores.

Swinging hard
Against Pakistan, batter after batter was caught up in the idea of swinging hard and offered little support to Brook.

In Colombo – where grip and turn have called for a calculated approach – they might be better off refraining from this.

Daunting bowling
The prospect of facing a daunting bowling lineup, of either South Africa, West Indies or India, up next, might bring England enough motivation to step up and head to the knockouts on firmer footing.

SUPER EIGHT
Today's match
Colombo (RPS), 7.00 p.m.
HEAD-TO-HEAD
Played: 30
England 17
New Zealand 10 | NR 3

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS 1, 2 & JIOHOTSTAR

NZ coach Walter lauds Santner's all-round ability

Abhishek Saini
COLOMBO

New Zealand head coach Rob Walter on Thursday heaped praise on Mitchell Santner after the all-rounder played a crucial role in getting his side a win over Sri Lanka.

"He's understated and flies under the radar. The next thing he's got four for nothing or scored 70 off nothing. And that's him, he's got a wonderful skill set, but he's understated, doesn't draw any attention to himself," Walter said ahead of the Super Eight match against England here on Friday.

"He's a proper batter and has shown on multiple occasions, he's got great power, and he finds it quite effortlessly. I've tried to get him to bat higher, but we do obviously have a strong batting unit and also he's reluctant to replace anyone."

Walter added that New Zealand will not be under any pressure in its final Super Eight match despite a semifinal spot at stake.

"It's not doom, we're not dead if we don't win, but certainly we leave it up to external factors then and out of our own hands. So, we certainly don't want to be in that position.

"But it's really taking care of the ball-by-ball process really, and hopefully that takes care of the result," Walter said.

Women in Blue eye improved batting display to stay alive in the ODI series

INDIA IN AUSTRALIA

Press Trust of India
HOBART

Outplayed in the series-opener, reigning world champion India would aim for an improved batting effort in the second women's ODI against Australia to keep the three-match rubber alive here on Friday.

Australia has dominated the rivalry against India in this format, having won all 11 of the bilateral ODI series between the two sides, including a 3-0 win in late 2024 and a 2-1 victory in September 2025.

India will look to draw inspiration from its five-wicket win over Australia in the 2025 ODI World Cup semifinal.

Impact player: Jemimah will be keen to make amends after her failure in the opener. GETTY IMAGES

In the opener here, India was bundled out for a paltry 214.

Barring vice-captain Smriti Mandhana skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and Kahsvee Gautam no other Indian batter could produce substantial knocks and struggled against Australia's disciplined bowling. On the bowling front, left-arm spinner Shree Charani was the star but she will look for support from the likes of Deepti Sharma and Kashvee in the middle overs.

The onus would be on right-arm fast medium-pacers Renuka Singh and Kranti Gaud to inflict the damage early on.

Trailing in the series, the Indian team management might also be tempted to bring in all-rounders Amanjot Kaur and Sneh Rana.

The teams (from): Australia: Alyssa Healy (Capt.), Sophie Molineux (Vice-Capt.), Darcie Brown, Nicola Carey, Ashleigh Gardner, Kim Garth, Alana King, Phoebe Litchfield, Beth Mooney, Tahlia McGrath, Ellyse Perry, Annabel Sutherland, Georgia Voll and Georgia Wareham.

India: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana (Vice-Capt.), Shafali Verma, Renuka Thakur, Sree Charani, Vaishnavi Sharma, Kranti Gaud, Sneh Rana, Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh (wk), Uma Chetry (wk), Amanjot Kaur, Jemimah Rodrigues, Kashvee Gautam, Harleen Deol and Pratika Rawal.

Match starts at 9.20 a.m.

Sportstar ACES Awards: voting ends tomorrow

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

The year that went by was an interesting one for Indian sports, and the *Sportstar* ACES Awards brings you the opportunity to celebrate your favourite athletes.

We have 25 categories of awards which recognise people and organisations from the country's sporting ecosystem.

Among the many nominees is the Indian men's cricket team which claimed the Champions Trophy and Asia Cup titles in 2025.

Maiden ODI WC crown
The Indian women's cricket team claimed its maiden ODI World Cup on home soil.

India also clinched the inaugural Blind Women's T20 World Cup title, while the under-19 women's team successfully defended its title in the T20 World Cup.

At the individual level, Divya Deshmukh's triumph at the Women's Chess World Cup was a standout moment.

In shooting, Samrat Rana became the first Indian pistol shooter to be crowned World champion in an Olympic discipline when he won the 10m air pistol event in Cairo.

Youngster Suruchi Singh bagged 10m air pistol gold medals in three consecutive World Cups.

Sheetal's feat
Pugilist Jaismine Lamboria punched her way to the boxing Worlds crown in Liverpool, while Sheetal Devi became the first armless sportswoman to win gold at the World Archery Para Championships.

With voting lines open until Saturday, hurry and make sure to cast your vote in favour of your favourite nominee by scanning the QR code below for the five Popular Choice Awards: Sportstar of the Year – Male and Female, National Team of the Year, Club/State Team of the Year, and Sporting Moment of the Year.

Elite panel
The winners of the 19 Jury Awards will be chosen by an elite panel headed by legendary Indian cricketer Sunil Gavaskar. Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra, former India hockey captain M. M. Somaya, chess great Viswanathan Anand, and Olympians Anjali Bhagwat and Aparna Popat complete the jury.

There will also be a separate Chairperson's Award for Sports for Social Good.

The eighth edition of the Sportstar ACES Awards is presented by Amul and co-presented by Casagrand, while the Associate Sponsors include Christ University, Bharat Petroleum, Sports Authority of Telangana, and NTPC Limited.

Gukesh ekes out draw against Niemann

Honours even: Gukesh overcame a few anxious moments before signing the peace treaty with Niemann. X@PRAGUECHESS

CHESS

Press Trust of India
PRAGUE

World champion D. Gukesh survived some anxious moments in the early middle game before finally drawing with Hans Moke Niemann of the United States in the first round of the masters section of the Prague International Chess Festival here.

Defending champion Aravindh Chithambaram of India got on the wrong side of a position against Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan.

Aravindh went down in a rook and minor piece endgame.

Top seed Vincent Keymer of Germany was blown away by a resurgent Jorden van Foreest of The Netherlands.

In the challengers section, women's World Cup winner Divya Deshmukh drew with top seed Benjamin Gledura of Hungary while Surya Shekhar Ganguly lost to Thomas Beerdsen of The Netherlands.

The results (first round):
Masters: D. Gukesh drew with Hans Moke Niemann; Nodirbek Abdusattorov bt Aravindh Chithambaram; Jorden van Foreest bt Vincent Keymer; David Navara bt Parham Maghsoodloo; Nodirbek Yakubboev bt David Anton Guijarro.

Challengers: Divya Deshmukh drew with Benjamin Gledura; Surya Shekhar Ganguly lost to Thomas Beersden; Zhu Jiner lost to Jachym Nemec; Daniel Yuffa lost to Stepen Hrbek; Jonas Buhl Bjerre drew with Vaclav Finek.

Bengaluru FC defence should strive to come good

ISL

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

Bengaluru FC will look to tighten its defence when it takes on Punjab FC in an ISL encounter at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium on Friday. BFC's previous outing, a 1-1 draw to NorthEast United FC, saw the former concede several chances through defensive lapses.

It was the safe presence of BFC custodian Gurpreet Sandhu which saved the side from defeat.

Punjab, meanwhile, is coming off a 0-1 defeat to Jamshedpur FC.

A strong foreign core – Nigerian forward Effiong Nsungusi, Spanish midfielder Dani Ramirez and Brazilian centre-back Pablo Santos – is crucial to the visitor's hopes of recording a first win.

The latest Formula One rules demand a new driving style

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

Chaotic starts, tricky overtaking and lifting off the gas on the straights. Formula One's new set of regulations could affect the series in unexpected ways as the season begins with the Australian GP next week.

Red Bull's Max Verstappen and Lewis Hamilton of Ferrari, the two most successful drivers on the grid, were critical during the testing of cars, whose electrical hybrid systems promote unusual driving styles and make racing more strategic.

Four-time champion Verstappen branded the cars "no fun" and suggested that they might be a factor in considering retirement, while seven-time winner Hamilton suggested that the rules are too complex for the fans to grasp.

Despite big changes, the top-four teams are the same, as Mercedes, Ferrari, McLaren and Red Bull showed promise in testing.

The "big four", as McLaren boss Zak Brown calls them, are broadly similar on pace, with Mercedes and Ferrari perhaps having a slight edge in race simulations in testing. During the final test, Ferrari revealed a rear wing that turns upside down for straight-line speed and an innovative mini-wing behind the exhaust.

It stood out as the fastest in practice starts while the other teams, especially Mercedes, were sluggish off the line.

The rivals have praised Red Bull for mastering the electrical power technology, while defending champion Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri seem consistently strong again for McLaren, which uses a Mercedes engine.

Nabi rocks Karnataka's batting unit, puts Jammu & Kashmir in the driver's seat

In the battle between the in-form pacer and the host's famed batting unit, there was only one winner; tournament top-scorer Smaran and Karun dismissed for ducks; even after Mayank's unbeaten century, the home side needs a miracle to go the distance

RANJI TROPHY FINAL

N. Sudarshan
HUBBALLI

Give someone an inch and they will take a mile. No player has internalised this age-old saying quite like Auqib Nabi.

On day three of the Ranji Trophy final at the KSCA Rajnagar Stadium here on Thursday, the Jammu & Kashmir pacer sliced through the Karnataka top-order to show why he is the hottest property in Indian domestic cricket.

On a predominantly batting-friendly surface, but one that was slightly hospitable to off-the-seam movement, Nabi bowled five devastating overs – one before lunch and four after – and excised K.L. Rahul, Karun Nair and R. Smaran to leave the home side tottering at 57 for four.

Karun and Smaran, in fact, fell for zeroes off back-to-back deliveries as Karnataka's reply to J & K's giant 584-run first-innings total crumbled like the defence of a shoddily prepared lawyer faced with a shrewd prosecutor.

Opener Mayank Agarwal did emerge with credit, remaining unbeaten on 130 (207b, 17x4), his 21st First Class century and 14th for his State.

If a 105-run partnership with Shreyas Gopal (27, 83b, 1x4) for the fifth wicket arrested the bleeding, an unbroken 58-run association with Kruthik Krishna (27 batting, 75b, 2x4) has kept the hope flickering at 220 for five. To what end, Friday will tell.

Jumping for joy: Nabi celebrates the removal of Smaran with his teammates. K. MURALI KUMAR

Lone warrior: Mayank has kept Karnataka's faint hopes alive with an unbeaten century. K. MURALI KUMAR

In the first session, J & K, from an overnight 527 for six, was bowled out for the addition of 57 runs as pacer Prasidh Krishna took five for 98, his fourth five-wicket haul in First Class matches and second against J & K.

That brought into play the battle everyone was waiting for – the famed Karnataka batting order, comprising four Test batters and this campaign's leading run-scorer, against Nabi. There was only one winner.

The 29-year-old scalped all three of his wickets in similar fashion – with good-length deliveries aimed at the stumps foxing the batters by moving away a tad. Rahul was squared up and forced to edge behind; Karun was royally cleaned up; and southpaw Smaran was caught by wicketkeeper Kanhaiya Wadhawan for a golden duck.

Left-armer Sunil Kumar offered variety and proved the catalyst behind Karnataka's implosion from 56 for one when he had captain Devdutt Padikkal caught by Abdul Samad at first slip in the 17th over.

By the end of the subsequent over, Nabi had nearly flattened his opponent by taking his season's tally to 58 wickets.

If he can finish the job on the penultimate morning, J & K could well be floating in the air and within touching distance of its maiden Ranji Trophy title.

The scores: Jammu & Kashmir — 1st innings: Qamran Iqbal c Rahul b Prasidh 6, Yawer Hassan c Rahul b Prasidh 88, Shubham Pundir c sub (Aneesh) b Vidyadhar 121, Paras Dogra b Shreyas 70, Abdul Samad c Kruthik b Prasidh 61, Kanhaiya Wadhawan c Rahul b Shikhar 70, Sahil Lotra c Vidyadhar b Vyshak 72, Abid Mushtaq c Padikkal b Prasidh 28, Auqib Nabi c Kruthik b Prasidh 2, Yudhvir Singh (run out) 30, Sunil Kumar (not out) 1; Extras (b-14, lb-16, w-5): 35; Total (in 173.1 overs): 584.

Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-157, 3-303, 4-307, 5-417, 6-471, 7-539, 8-543, 9-573.

Karnataka bowling: Vidyadhar 32-2-116-1, Vyshak 34-10-75-1, Prasidh 34.1-7-98-5, Shreyas 34-2-139-1, Shikhar 37-3-125-1, Karun 2-1-1-0.

Karnataka — 1st innings: K.L. Rahul c Wadhawan b Nabi 13, Mayank Agarwal (batting) 130, Devdutt Padikkal c Samad b Sunil 11, Karun Nair b Nabi 0, R. Smaran c Wadhawan b Nabi 0; Shreyas Gopal lbw b Yudhvir 27, Kruthik Krishna (batting) 27; Extras (lb-2, nb-10): 12; Total (for five wkts. in 69 overs): 220.

Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-56, 3-57, 4-57, 5-162.

Jammu & Kashmir bowling: Nabi 14-3-32-3, Sunil 14-3-45-1, Yudhvir 10-3-32-1, Abid 20-2-62-0, Lotra 9-0-42-0, Samad 2-0-5-0.

'If you are bowling well, there are no difficult batters'

N. Sudarshan
HUBBALLI

Auqib Nabi would have been a fine book reviewer. Neither the name of the author nor the standing of the publisher would have mattered to him. The written word would have been sacrosanct.

On day three of the Ranji Trophy final against Karnataka, the Jammu & Kashmir pacer brought this reputation-agnostic quality to his bowling to dismiss K.L. Rahul, Karun Nair and R. Smaran.

The three have nearly 20,000 First Class runs among them, and Rahul and Karun have featured in a combined 77 Tests for India. But on Thursday, Rahul scored three of his 13 runs off Nabi, and Karun and Smaran none.

"My mindset is that I should bowl without looking at the batters," Nabi said after play.

"I should do what I can do, which is to stick to a particular line and length, and not leave the channel. If you are bowling well, there are no difficult batters. I bowl with that positive mindset."

This was in contrast to how Karnataka operated. Prasidh Krishna and V. Vyshak – and occasionally Vidyadhar Patil – did come up with some tight spells, but they weren't relentless like Nabi.

"The pitch is good for batting. But if you bowl in good areas, there is something (in it)," Nabi explained. "So, I just wanted to bowl in a good spot."

Often, Nabi's flawless wrist position and the ability to land the red cherry repeatedly on the seam have been favourably compared to that of Mohammed Shami.

On Thursday, the J & K speedster showcased this yet again as he went past 100 Ranji Trophy wickets in two seasons (102).

"If you have a straight wrist, everything else becomes easy," the 29-year-old said. "Because the ball moves only with the wrist. So if you have a straight wrist, it's very good for a fast bowler".

Done in: Karun has no clue to this one from Nabi. K. MURALI KUMAR

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE
KALAIMAGHAL SABHA
Registration No. 16/1984
Door No. 17/48, North Usman Road, T.Nagar, Chennai – 600 017 Phone Numbers: 044-28158024/25 Cell Number: 99440 98552
E-Tender cum E – Auction of the Properties belonging to Kalaimaghal Sabha
(As per the Orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras)

Notice is hereby given to the public and intending bidders that the properties belonging to **Kalaimaghal Sabha,** (registered under Registration No.16/1984), under the possession of the Special Officer who is appointed by the Hon'ble High Court of Madras will be sold through **e-tender-cum-e-auction process** on "as is where is basis", as per the directions of the Hon'ble High court of Madras. The auction is conducted pursuant to proceedings in **W.A. No. 472/2024** and will be carried out through the portal: **https://tntenders.gov.in**. To get the details about the properties , the Office of The Kalaimaghal Sabha, located at No.17/48, North Usman Road, T.Nagar, Chennai 600 017 Phone No. 044-28158024 / 25 | Mobile: 99440 98552) may be contacted.

Lot No.	District	Revenue Village	Survey No.	Extent	Location	Landmark	Value fixed by the District Committee (On the directions of the Hon'ble High Court) Rs.	Upset Price Rs.	EMD Rs.
1	Thiruvarur	Kurungulam	143/13	4 Acres. 25 cents	Kumbakonam - Karaikkal Highways (From Thirunallar 7 Km distance)- Frontage in highways 250 ft (Approximately)	Near Kandan Nagar	4,63,72,000	4,63,72,000	46,37,200
2	Coimbatore	Ganapathy	1138	2588.81 Sq.ft.	3rd plot from Gandhipuram 100 ft road	Very near to Coimbatore Gandhipuram bus stand	2,97,00,000	2,97,00,000	29,70,000
3	Coimbatore	Thirumalaiyam Palayam-North	140/1B2 143/1A2	12 Acres 35 cents	On Coimbatore Palakadu NH Road (21 Km distance from Coimbatore Railway Station) Frontage in highways 250 ft (Approximately)	Opposite to Amrita Educational Institutions	55,57,50,000	55,57,50,000	5,55,75,000
4	Coimbatore	Angalakurichi	194/2 210/1	5 Acres 94 cents	Pollachi- Valparai Main Road (17 Km distance from Pollachi town) Frontage in highways 100 ft (Approximately)	Near by KMG Polytechnic, Sendhur Garden	10,39,50,000	10,39,50,000	1,03,95,000

Tender Reference No : Kalaimaghal Sabha / Letter No.70(A1)/2026
Tender Id : 2026_IGR_666249_1
https://tntenders.gov.in

➢ The above e-tender cum e-auction process will take place in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in W.A.No.472/2024.
Last date for submission of tender documents : 27.03.2026 Time: 12.00 Noon

Place: Chennai Date : 27.02.2026 DIPR/240/DISPLAY/2026

Special Officer,
Kalaimaghal Sabha, Chennai

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No: 02-MYS-2026
Dated: 19.02.2026
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Name of work	Approx. Value
Supply & Installation of Oil Fired Steam Boiler Capacity 2000 Kg. **(Tender No. L9256075A)**	**Rs. 98,74,000.00**

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 10:30 Hrs. on 11.03.2026
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Materials Manager/ Mysuru
PUB/922/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No.: B/TRD.2025-26/45
Dated: 20.02.2026
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Provision of Second Transformer bay at Yelahanka/TSS (YNK).	**Rs. 1,63,83,584/-**

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 13.03.2026
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ Traction Distribution/Bengaluru
PUB/925/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
E-Tender Notice No.: Y/E.29/2025-26/95
Dated: 19.02.2026
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
1) Construction of Gang Tool cum Rest Room in SSE/P.Way/ Harapanahalli (HPHI) Section - 09 Nos. **2)** Construction of Gang Tool cum Rest Room in SSE/P.Way/Davangere (DVG) Section - 05 Nos. and SSE/P.Way/ Ranebennur (RNR) Section - 02 Nos. **3)** Harihar - Construction of Overhead Tank 2.5 lakh litres capacity.	**Rs. 36,98,068.51**

Last date for submission of bids:
Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 12.03.2026
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/ General/Mysuru
PUB/928/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our clients **Mr.Ashish Easo Cheriyan S/o Mr.Raju Cherian and Mrs.Ann Mary Thomas W/o Mr.Ashish Easo Cheriyan** are intending to purchase the schedule property from **Mr.Daulath Surendra Prashanth S/o Mr.Daulath Nanjundaiah Setty Surendra and Mrs.Shweta Pareek W/o Mr.Daulath Surendra Prashanth;** person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our client shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing a Vacant Residential Northern Portion of **Site No.1,** House List Katha No.266/3, BBMP Katha No.266/3/1, formed in Property 93/1, Situated at: **HORAMAVU AGARA VILLAGE, Krishnarajapura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore,** Now Coming under the Jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Ward No.25, Bangalore, Measuring East to West: **25 Feet** and North to South: **50 Feet,** in all measuring **1250 Square Feet**, and bounded on the:-

East by : 20 feet Road, West by : Property belonging to Mr.Kitty, North by : Private Property, South by : Remaining Southern portion of Site No. 1.

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 9108784843
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client **Mrs.Shashikala and Mr.V Balaji,** are intending to purchase the Schedule property from **Mr. Venkateshaiah, S/o. Late. Sri Thammaiah** and the same being acquired vide, Sale Deed dated 11/09/2008 registered as Doc No.NGB-1-02141-2008-09, in Book-I, stored in C.D.No.NGBD21, in the Office of Sub-Registrar Rajajinagar (Nagarabhavi), Bengaluru.

If any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the Schedule Property is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within **Seven (07) days** from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents failing which the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim and the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated as waived and not binding on my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of Property bearing **Site No. A13,** Assessment No.83/4, situated at Srigandhadakavalu (Sunkadakatte) Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently bearing BBMP **EPID No.1624943182** and **Property No.74/83/4/A-13,** now within the limits of Greater Bangalore Authority erstwhile BBMP, ward No.73, Bangalore and site measuring East to West **40 feet** and North to South **30 feet,** totally measuring **1200 Sq.feet** and bounded by:

East : Site No.A20, West : Road, North : Site No.A12, South : Site No.A14.

Shivakumar, Advocate
M/s. RASHI LEGAL,
No.1252/2, M.C.Layout, A.Dasarahalli, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore 560 040
M-9538178060,

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice No. 27/2026/SBC Dated: 20.02.2026
The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders through IREPS only for supply of following items:

Tender No.	Description in Brief
L8256585A	Supply, installation, testing and comissioning of Control Transformer as per RDSO Specification No. RDSO/PE/SPEC/AC/0203-2020 (Rev.0) & RDSO Letter No. EL/7.1.108/Mail File Dt. 16.04.2021. **(Qty. 1050 Nos.)**

Last date for Submission/Tender Due on: **Upto 10:30 Hrs. on 18.03.2026**
For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in
Senior Divisional Materials Manager, Bengaluru
PUB/929/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26
South Western Railway - SWR | SWRRLY | SWRAILWAYHQ | sw_railways

Download the **RailOne** app. RailOne is the all-in-one railway app by Indian Railways. Passengers can book reserved tickets, unreserved tickets, platform tickets, and season passes, check PNR status, order food, and access many more services at their fingertips. Use digital payment to book unreserved tickets through **RailOne** app, and enjoy up to a **3%** discount.

Government of India
Ministry of Finance Department of Financial Services
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - 1 KARNATAKA
4th Floor, Telephone House, Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru, Pincode-560001

DEMAND NOTICE

FORM NO.14
[See Regulation 33(2)] By Regd.
A/D, Dasti failing which by Publication

NOTICE UNDER SECTIONS 25 TO 28 OF THE RECOVERY OF DEBTS & BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1993 AND RULE 2 OF SECOND SCHEDULE TO THE INCOME TAX ACT, 1961. as amended
RC/523/2024 **29.01.2025**
BANK OF BARODA
Versus
M/S EXCEL ENGINEERS

In the Matter of:
(CH-1) BANK OF BARODA, **Branch At: Vijayanagar,** No.372/90, J.J.Residency, 18th Cross, 15th Main, Opposite-Post Office, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040.
...Applicant Bank/Certificate Holder
VS
To,
(CD-1) M/S.EXCEL ENGINEERING A Proprietary Concern No.567/3, 75th Cross, VI Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010. Represented By Its Proprietor Sri.Prabhakar Rao.
(CD-2) Sri. PRABHAKAR RAO S/o.Sri.Ishwar Rao, Residing At: Flat No.567/37, 5th Cross, VI Block, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru-560010. **...Deffendants/Certificate Debtors**

CH Name	Int. Type/Mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	RC Amount (Rs.)
Bank of Baroda	Compound Interest (Monthly)	13.40% p.a.	01/10/2019	17/11/2023	1,04,17,891/-

This is to notify that as per the Recovery Certificate issued in pursuance of orders passed by the Presiding Officer, **Debts Recovery Tribunal Bangalore (DRT 1)** in **OA/1277/2019** an amount of **Rs.1,04,17,891.00 (Rupees One Crore Four Lakh Seventeen Thousands Eight Hundred Ninety One Only)** along with cost, expenses and future interest @ **13.40% p.a.** Compound Interest Monthly **w.e.f. 01.10.2019** till realization and costs of **Rs. 1,70,505.00 (Rupees One Lakh Seventy Thousands Five Hundred Five Only)** has become due against you (Jointly and severally/ Fully/Limited).

CD Name	Int. Type/Mode	Int. Rate	Effective Date	Order Date	Liability Type	RC Amount (Rs.)
(CD-1) M/s Excel Engineering Rep. by its Proprietor (CD-2) Sri Prabhakar Rao	Compound Interest (Monthly)	13.40% p.a.	01/10/2019	17/11/2023	Jointly and Severaly	1,04,17,891/-

2. You are hereby directed to pay the above sum within 15 days of the receipts of the notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rules there under.
3. You are hereby ordered to declare on an affidavit the particulars of yours assets on or before the next date of hearing.
4.Your hereby order to appear before the undersigned on **14.04.2025** at **10.30 a.m** for further proceedings.
5. In addition to the sum aforesaid, you will also be liable to pay:
(a) Such interests as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the certificate / execution proceedings.
(b) All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and warrants and other processes and all other proceedings taken for recovering the amount due.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Tribunal, on this date: **29.01.2025**

(Sanjiv Kumar)
Recovery Officer-I

Copy to: Bank Of Baroda, Branch At: Vijayanagar, No.372/90, J.J.Residency, 18th Cross, 15th Main, Opposite-Post Office, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040.**:** You are directed that the payment made, if any, by the Certificate Debtor(s) be credited to the consolidated account of all debts due in this case from the Certificate Debtor(s) and the Recovery Officer kept posted with the payment position regularly. The consolidated account so maintained will be subject to the verification of the Recovery Officer. You are further directed to submit an up to date statement of the total claim in respect of the above matter and full details of property particulars where from the recovery of the debts in to be made.

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया
Central Bank of India
Regional Office : Second Floor, Grand Majestic Mall, No.12, 2nd Cross, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru - 560 009. Phone : 080-22265652-53, Fax : 080 22258581

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the public at large that certain news reports presently circulating in print, electronic and digital media platforms contain fraudulent, misleading and factually incorrect statements concerning Central Bank of India.

The Bank categorically and unequivocally denies all allegations leveled against it in the news report telecasted / published by Asianet Suvarna News and Newsfirst Prime on 17/02/2026 & 18/02/2026 in relation to the gold loan fraud detected in October 2023 at its Chikkamagaluru Branch. The said report has been published / telecast without seeking clarification from, or verifying the correct factual position with, the Bank, and is therefore erroneous and misleading.

The allegations contained therein are wholly baseless, unfounded, false and frivolous in nature and appear to have been made with a deliberate and mala fide intention to tarnish the goodwill, reputation and public confidence reposed in the Bank.

It is pertinent to clarify that immediately upon detection of the fraud in 2023, the Bank lodged a First Information Report (FIR) against the concerned staff members. The accused individuals were arrested by the competent law enforcement authorities and the charge sheet is presently under process before the competent court through the Chikkamagaluru Police. Further, in the year 2024, the Bank, acting in utmost good faith and in the interest of its customers, fully compensated and reimbursed the affected borrowers of the Chikkamagaluru Branch to the extent of the gross gold weight value.

In strict adherence to the principles of discipline, transparency and ethical governance, the Bank initiated and conducted departmental disciplinary proceedings against the concerned officials in accordance with the applicable service regulations, and appropriate and stringent action has been initiated against the concerned officers.

The Bank strongly condemns the dissemination of such false and defamatory narratives and cautions all concerned against circulation of unverified and misleading information. The Bank reserves its right to initiate appropriate civil and/or criminal proceedings against any individual, organization or media platform found to be involved in publishing or propagating false, defamatory or misleading statements prejudicial to the interests of the Bank.

The Bank further advises members of the media fraternity and social media influencers to exercise due diligence and obtain official confirmation before publishing or broadcasting any news, content or commentary concerning the Bank.

Issued in public interest.

K. Parthasarathi Naidu
Regional Head
Central Bank of India, Regional Office, Bengaluru.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that we are conducting the title due diligence on behalf of our client with respect to the property described in the Schedule hereto, owned by **M/s. Venus Logy Park Private Limited**. Any person or persons, including an individual, a Hindu Undivided Family, a company, banks, financial institution(s), non-banking financial institution(s), a firm, an association of persons or a body of individuals whether incorporated or not, lenders and/or creditors having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in respect of Schedule Property having any objection, claim, interest or right, title on the property described in the Schedule written hereunder or any part or portion thereof by way of any litigation(s) pending before any court or tribunal or governmental or statutory authority or by way of inheritance, succession, sale, exchange, mortgage, lien, pledge, gift, trust, bequest, possession, lease, charge, easement, grant, tenancy, maintenance, license, share, assignment, attachment, development rights, right of way, lispendens, reservation, agreement, FSI consumption or any liability or commitment or otherwise or encumbrance or demand of any nature whatsoever is hereby required to intimate the same to the undersigned in writing within **Fifteen (15)** days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/its claim, if any, with all supporting documents, failing which the due diligence shall be completed without reference to such claim, and the claims, if any, of such person (s) shall be treated as waived and not binding on our client.

THE SCHEDULE REFERRED TO ABOVE

All the piece and parcel of the property measuring 01 Acre 26 Guntas and 15 Gunas 'A' Kharab land in **Survey No. 7/1**, situated at Thoranahalli Agrahara Village, Kasaba Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District (undeveloped) converted for non-agricultural Warehouse purpose vide Order of the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District bearing No. LAND10018726 dated 27.08.2019 and bounded on the:

East by	Property bearing Survey No. 7/2 and 7/4,
West by	Property in Survey No. 29,
North by	Property in Survey No. 4/1,
South by	Property in Survey No. 7/3

Mr. S T Prashantha Kumar, Advocate & Senior Partner
Fox Mandal & Associates
"FM House", 6/12, Primrose Road, Bangalore 560 025
Phone : +91 80 2559 5911. e-mail: bangalore@foxmandal.in

READ
SPORTSTAR
EVERY FORTNIGHT.
TO SUBSCRIBE, VISIT
www.thehindugroup.in/subscribe

Vinicius seals Real Madrid's progress; PSG survives a scare against Monaco

Osimhen and Yilmaz's extra-time strikes help Galatasaray baulk 10-man Juventus' stunning fightback as the Turks win 7-5 on aggregate; Samardzic's injury-time spot-kick takes Serie A side Atalanta past Bundesliga outfit Borussia Dortmund in the second leg at home

Starring role: Vinicius, centre, watches on as his deftly-placed shot sails past Benfica's Trubin for Real's winner. REUTERS

On target: Osimhen scores Galatasaray's opening goal of the night against Juventus in the first half of extra time. REUTERS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Vinicius Junior sealed Real Madrid's progress to the Champions League last 16 on Wednesday with the clincher against Benfica as holder Paris Saint-Germain edged out 10-man Ligue 1 rival Monaco.

Italian giant Juventus almost pulled off a stunning comeback from its 5-2 first leg deficit against Galatasaray, but extra-time goals from Victor Osimhen and Baris Yilmaz gave the Turks a 7-5 aggregate victory, while Lazar Samardzic's injury-time spot-kick put Atalanta through 4-3 on aggregate against Borussia Dortmund. Vinicius scored the winning goal in a 2-1 victory on the night to secure a 3-1 aggregate success for Real in the play-off tie in Madrid.

Benfica coach Jose Mourinho was also suspended for the match against his former employers but his side briefly gave him hope of a shock result.

PSG overcame a first-half scare to beat Monaco 5-4 on aggregate after a 2-2 draw at the Parc des Princes.

Monaco pulled level on aggregate just before half-time as Maghnes Akliouche finished smartly from Mamadou Coulibaly's clever pass.

But Coulibaly picked up two yellow cards in quick succession early in the second half and almost immediately, Desire Doue teed up Marquinhos to finish from close range.

Clincher: Samardzic scores from the spot against Dortmund to ensure Atalanta's pre-quarterfinal berth. AP

Six minutes later, Hakimi let fly from distance, Monaco goalkeeper Philipp Koehn parried, and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia slammed home the rebound to all but crush the visitors' hopes before Jordan Teze scored in injury time.

Ten-man Juventus's hopes of pulling off a stunning comeback came up short despite beating Galatasaray 3-2 after extra time in Turin. Captain Manuel Locatelli gave Juve a lifeline with a first-half penalty as the Italians dominated.

But their hopes of progressing took a huge blow when English centre-back Lloyd Kelly was harshly dismissed early in the second half after catching Yilmaz with his studs as he jumped for a header.

Federico Gatti turned home right-back Pierre Kalulu's wicked cross and US midfielder Weston McKennie levelled up the tie eight minutes from time with a back-post header from barely a yard out to force extra time.

But Osimhen and Yilmaz's extra period goals sent the Turks through.

The results: Atalanta 4 (Scamacca 5, Zappacosta 45, Pasalic 57, Samardzic 90+8-pen) bt Borussia Dortmund 1 (Adeyemi 75) (Atalanta won 4-3 on aggregate).

PSG 2 (Marquinhos 60, Kvaratskhelia 66) drew with Monaco 2 (Akliouche 45, Teze 90+1) (PSG won 5-4 on aggregate).

Real Madrid 2 (Tchouameni 16, Vinicius 80) bt Benfica 1 (Rafa Silva 14) (Real won 3-1 on aggregate).

Juventus 3 (Locatelli 37-pen, Gatti 70, McKennie 82) bt Galatasaray 2 (Osimhen 105+1, Baris Yilmaz 119) (aet) (Galatasaray won 7-5 on aggregate).

Pre-quarterfinalists: Arsenal, Bayern Munich, Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur, Barcelona, Chelsea, Sporting Lisbon, Manchester City, Real Madrid, PSG, Newcastle United, Atletico Madrid, Atalanta, Bayer Leverkusen, Galatasaray, Bodo/Glimt.

English giants dominate line-up for CL last-16 draw

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

The draw for the latter stages of this season's Champions League takes place on Friday with Newcastle United's midweek victory against Qarabag meaning an unprecedented six English sides will feature in the last 16.

The Premier League's financial might has not always translated into dominance in continental competition, with no English club featuring in the last two Champions League finals. There has been an English winner of Europe's elite club competition just twice in the last six seasons, and just three times in the last 13 years.

One argument put forward for such a relative lack of success in the Champions League given the financial strength of England's top flight is the intense competitive nature of their domestic league.

That can sap energy from teams late in the season, while the likes of Real Madrid, Barcelona, Bayern Munich and Paris Saint-Germain often have such a margin over rivals within their own countries that they can be fresher going into crunch Champions League knockout ties.

But English clubs now have such a margin over most of their continental rivals that they cruised through the league phase of this season's Champions League and their shadow looms large over the rest of Europe. Five Premier League teams – Arsenal, Liverpool, Tottenham Hotspur, Chelsea and Manchester City – finished in the top eight to secure direct progress to the last 16.

Newcastle finished 12th and then crushed Qarabag of Azerbaijan in the knockout phase play-offs.

In 29 games against opponents from the other leading European leagues in Spain, Germany, Italy and France, English clubs lost just six times.

Financial power

The primary reason for the Premier League's dominance is its overwhelming financial power, and it just keeps getting richer compared with every other league. A report published on Thursday by UEFA showed that television revenue for English top-flight clubs increased by £1.5 billion ($1.77 billion) between 2014 and 2024. Over the same period the combined TV revenue increase across clubs from the 53 other European top-division leagues was £ 1.6 billion.

Across the last decade the total revenue of English top-flight teams has increased by £3.5 billion, while the combined increase across Spanish, German, Italian and French top tiers was £5.9 billion.

Fifteen of the 30 richest clubs in the world in analysts *Deloitte*'s latest Football Money League are from the Premier League.

The rest of Europe simply cannot keep up off the pitch and they can no longer keep up on it, with the physicality of the Premier League overwhelming against weaker continental rivals.

Making Road & Rail Travel Safe for the People of Tumakuru

Making Indian Railways safe, convenient and modern is one of the top priorities of our government
- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

Inauguration of Pedestrian Subway at Shettihalli
&
Laying of Foundation Stone for Foot Over Bridge at Kyatsandra Railway Station

Benefits

- Improved pedestrian safety for local residents, including elderly citizens and children
- Enhanced passenger safety for the passengers moving across platforms within the railway station
- Fulfillment of long-pending demands of local residents
- Elimination of unsafe track crossings, through provision of a dedicated Foot Over Bridge

by
V. Somanna
Union Minister of State for Railways and Jal Shakti

27th February 2026
Shettihalli 01:10 PM
Kyatsandra Railway Station 03:45 PM
All are cordially invited

INDIAN RAILWAYS
In Service of the Nation
PUB/920/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

THE HINDU GROUP

The Future Reimagined.
Discover. Decide. Define Your Career

SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY | SRM School of LAW In Pursuit of Truth

PRESENTS

FUTURE CAREER CONVERSATIONS
REIMAGINING FUTURES THROUGH LAW

IN ASSOCIATION WITH: THE HINDU

In recent years, debates on federalism, free speech, and institutional balance have intensified, raising vital constitutional questions. This session will examine how these principles are interpreted today and how they continue to shape and challenge the functioning of the Indian Republic.

Register now by scanning the QR Code - limited seats available!

Webinar on Sunday, March 1, 2026, from 11:30 am

Constitution Under the Microscope:
Federalism, Free Speech & the Indian Republic

Special Addresses by

Prof A Vinay Kumar
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Science & Humanities, Law and Management, SRM Institute of Science and Technology, Kattankulathur

Dr P Sree Sudha
Dean, SRM School of Law, Kattankulathur

Panel Members

Dr Sumana Vedanth
Associate Professor, SRM School of Law, Kattankulathur

Suhrith Parthasarathy
Advocate, Madras High Court, Chennai

Akila R S
Advocate & Independent Researcher, Chennai

Radhika Santhanam
Senior Assistant Editor, The Hindu

To register, visit:
newsth.live/THSRMLP
or scan the QR code